

# Small District, Big Goals: Strategic Planning and Problem Solving with DeSoto County School District

## 2023 ISRD Winter Institute

### Presenters:

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# Professional Learning Objectives:

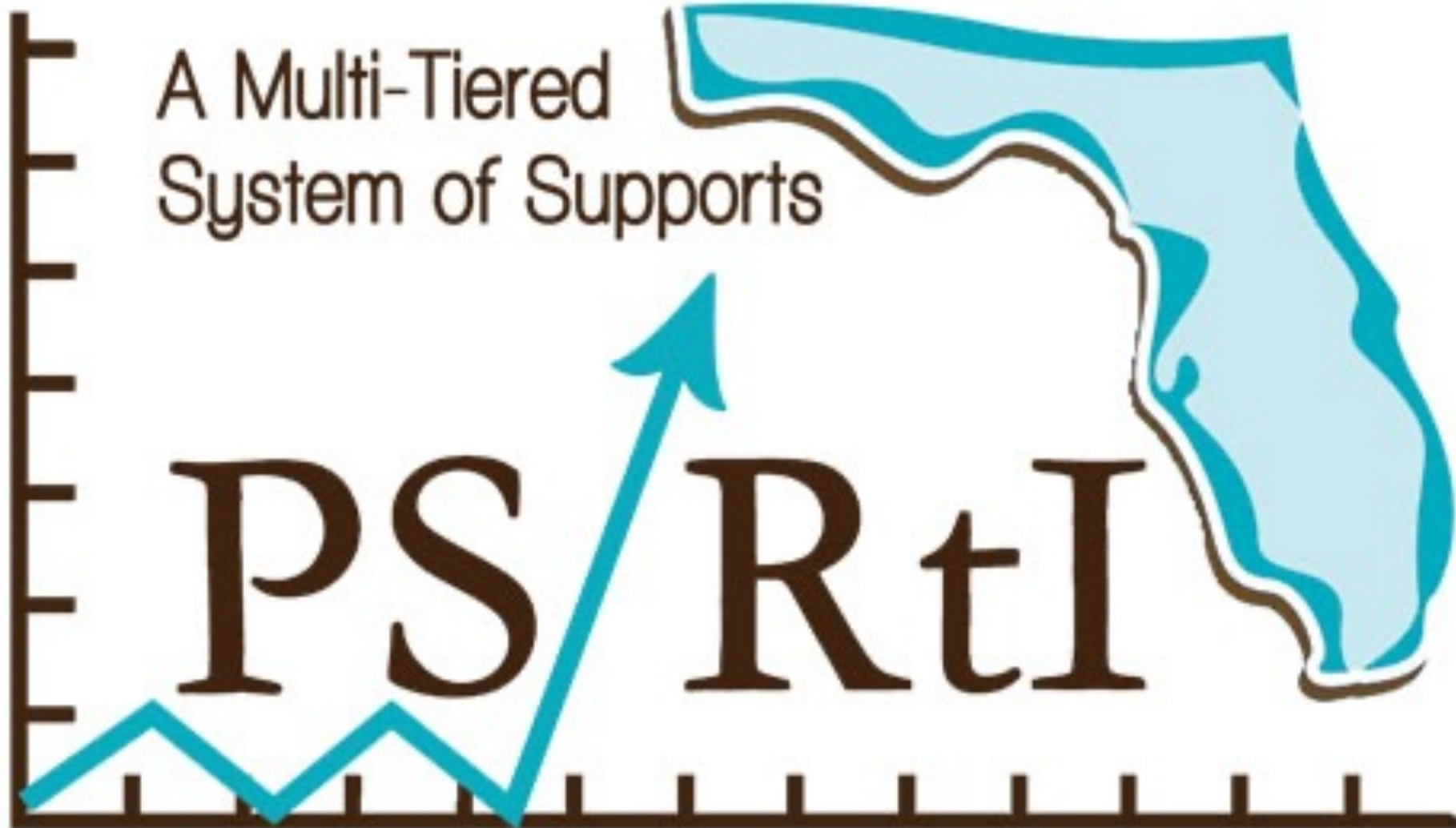
Participants will:

1. Increase knowledge of available partnership with Florida PS/Rtl Project
2. Increase knowledge of available project tools, materials, and professional learning resources
3. Increase interest in engaging with the project
4. Increase knowledge of how a small and rural district can benefit from project services

A Multi-Tiered  
System of Supports

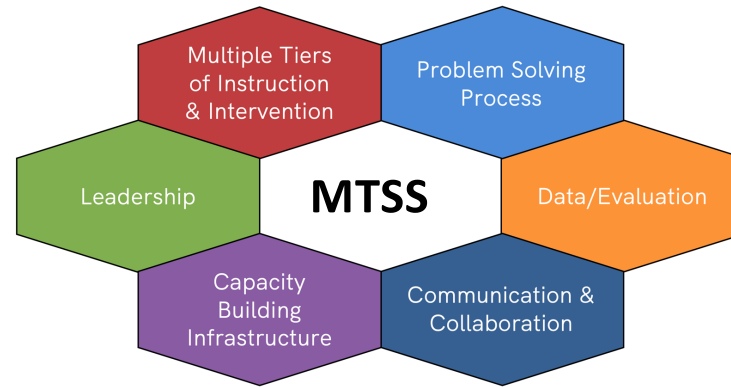
PS/RtI

Problem Solving/Response to Intervention



# Three Units

**MTSS  
Implementation  
Support Team**



**Technology  
Learning  
Connections**



**Professional Learning,  
Research and Evaluation**



*Learning Forward's Relationship Between  
Professional Learning & Student Results*

# The School District of DeSoto County



Total student population: 4,574

Number of schools: 6

3 Elementary

1 Middle

1 High

1 Alternative School



Student demographics:

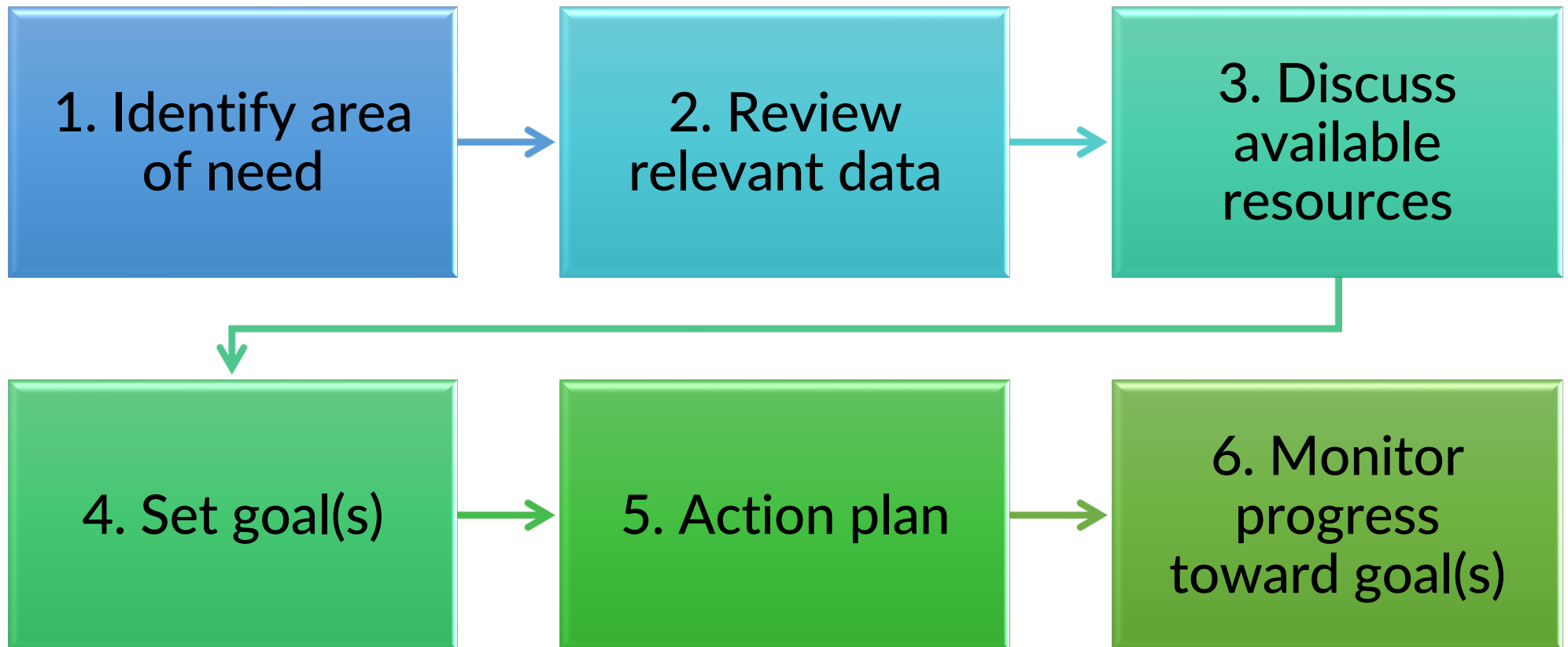
- 96% Economically Disadvantaged
- 51% Hispanic
- 34% Caucasian
- 12% African American
- 14.9% Students with Disabilities

Pause  
and  
Reflect

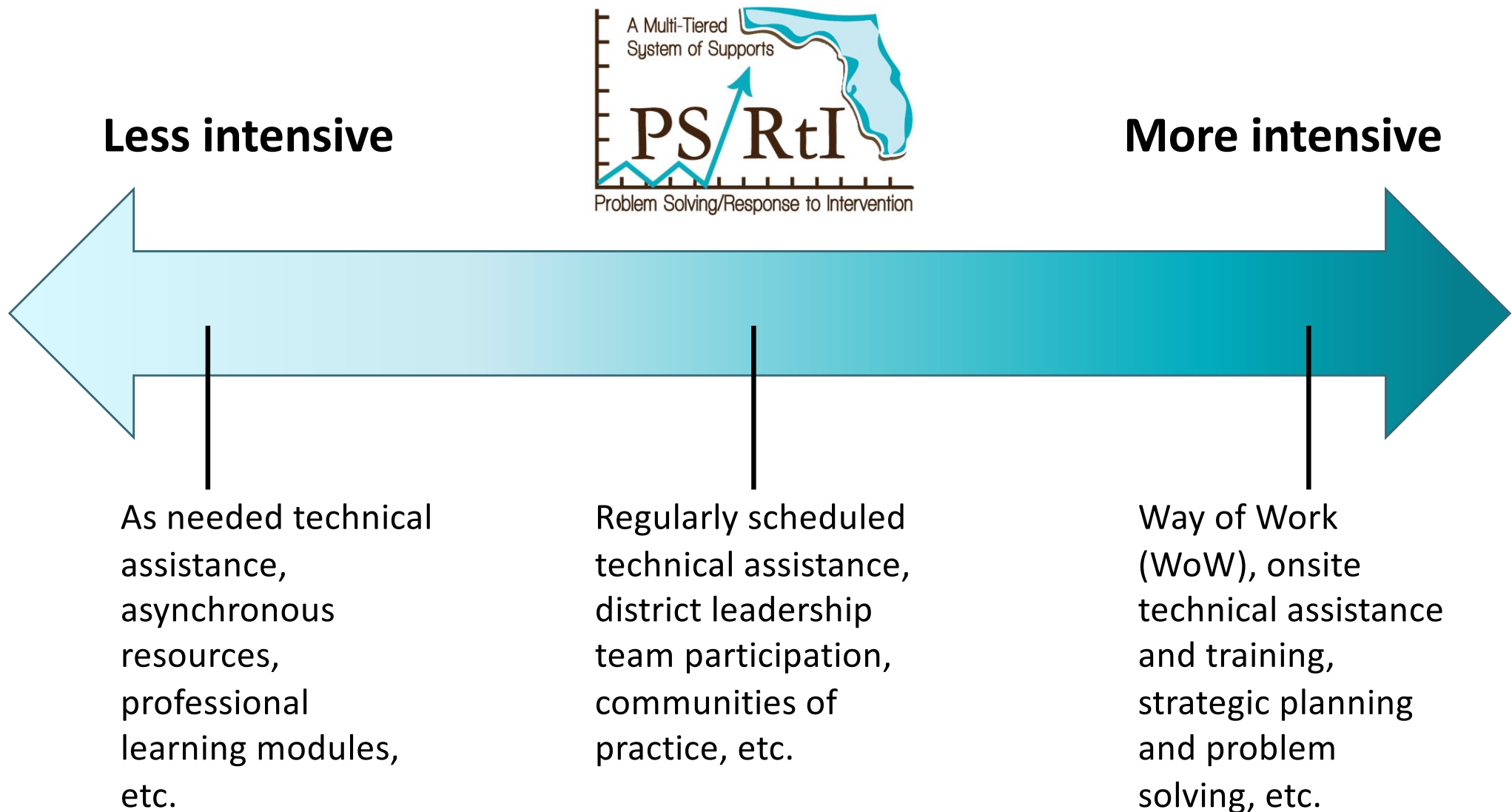
What made you  
select this  
session?



# Project Way of Work (WoW)



# A Continuum of Project Supports





# 1. Describe area of need

- Identify area of concern
- Identify key leaders/personnel
- Assemble a team

## 2. Review relevant data

- Convene team
- Identify relevant student outcome data
- Identify available MTSS implementation data



# Data-Based Findings

- Analyze data
- Identify area of needed improvement
- Consider aggregate and SWD\* subgroup data

\*Students with disabilities

### 3. Discuss available resources

- Identify available resources
- Identify existing external partners
- Determine how they can be leveraged

## 4. Set goal(s)

### **S.M.A.R.T Student Outcome Goal #1**

By EOY 22/23 DeSoto will increase the percentage of **all K-3 students** mastering foundational reading skills in the areas of phonological awareness , phonics and vocabulary and overall Math performance by 10% as measured by FAST

Goal #2: Specific to students with disabilities

Goal #3: Specific to Pre-Kindergarten ESE

# Analyzing Barriers to Reading

## 4-Step Problem Solving



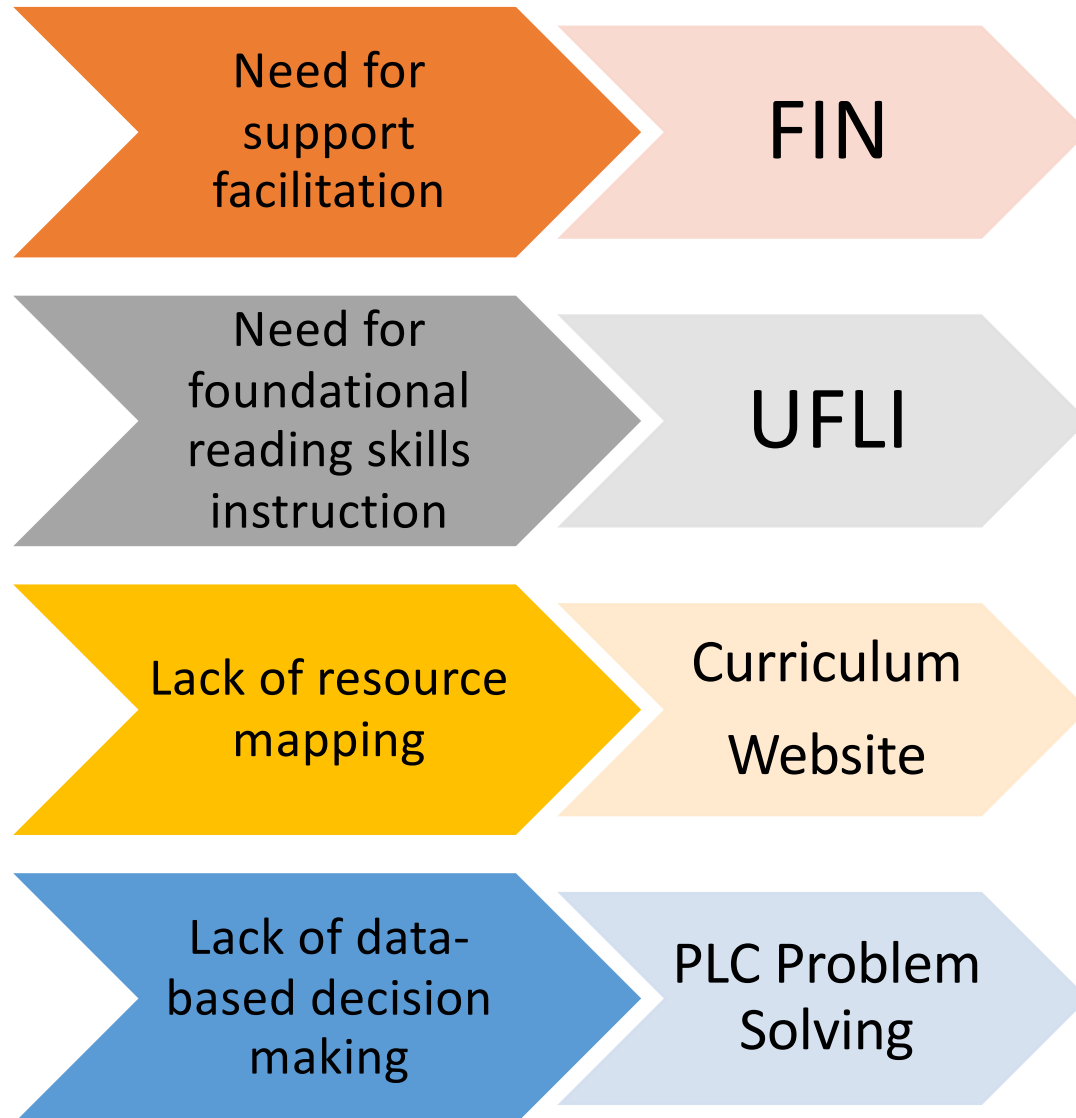
Need for  
support  
facilitation

Need for  
foundational  
reading skills  
instruction

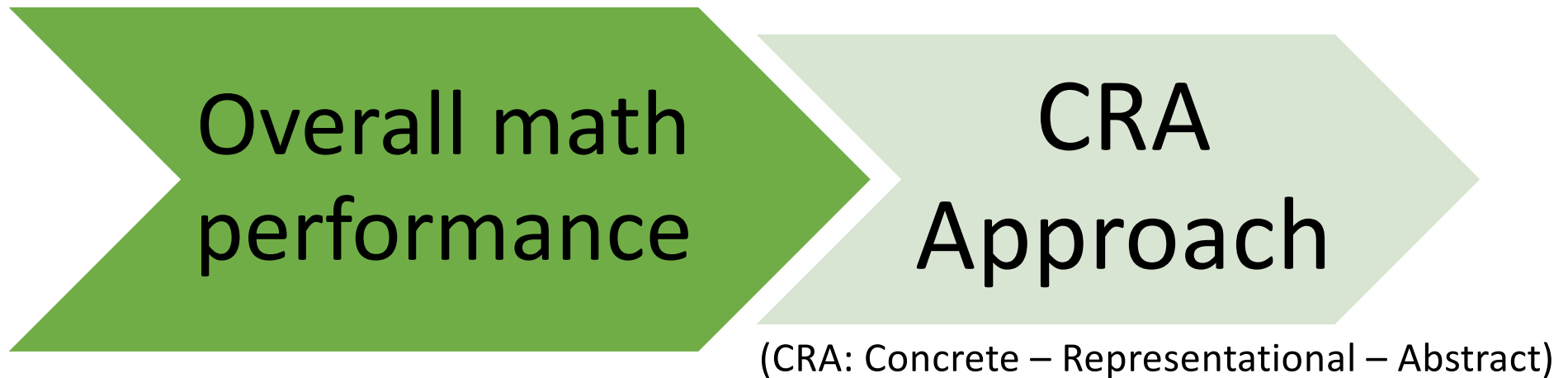
Lack of resource  
mapping

Lack of data-  
based decision  
making

# Addressing Barriers to Reading



# Addressing Barriers to Math





# CRA Approach



**C**

**R**

**A**

- Concrete or hands-on instruction that involves the manipulation of objects
- Representational stage, with different levels including pictures, technology, or tally marks
- Abstract stage, involving the use of numerals and operational symbols to represent the previous levels

## 5. Action plan

Delineate action steps:

- What will be done?
- Who will be responsible?
- When will it be accomplished?

# CRA Self-Reporting Tool

## Concrete-Representational-Abstract (CRA) Self-Reporting Tool

*CRA is a three-level strategy for promoting both conceptual understanding and procedural fluency.*

		Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
<i>During the concrete stage, three-dimensional objects are used to develop conceptual understanding of the concept in physical space.</i>					
Concrete	I model math concepts with concrete materials or manipulatives (e.g., base ten blocks, two-colored counters, popsicle sticks).				
	My students practice math concepts using concrete materials or manipulatives.				
	My students demonstrate their learning using concrete materials or manipulatives.				
<i>During the representational stage, two-dimensional drawings are used to rationalize the concept.</i>					
Representational	I model math concepts using representational/pictorial examples (e.g., graphs, tables, drawings).				
	My students practice math concepts using representations (e.g., graphs, tables, drawings).				
	My students can demonstrate their learning using representations (e.g., graphs, tables, drawings).				
<i>During the abstract phase, mathematical notation (numbers and/or symbols) is used to solve problems.</i>					
Abstract	I model math concepts at the abstract level using only numbers and/or symbols.				
	My students solve problems using abstract numbers and/or symbols.				
	My students demonstrate understanding using numbers and/or symbols.				

# CRA Observation Tool

## Concrete-Representational-Abstract (CRA) Observation Tool

<b>Benchmark being taught:</b>	
<b>Concept/Skill:</b>	

	Present	Absent
The teacher models math concepts with concrete materials or manipulatives (e.g., base ten blocks, two-colored counters, popsicle sticks).		
The students are provided with opportunities to practice math concepts using concrete materials or manipulatives.		
The students demonstrate their learning using concrete materials or manipulatives before moving to the representational level.		
The teacher models math concepts using representational/pictorial examples (e.g., graphs, tables, drawings).		
The students are provided with opportunities to practice math concepts using representations (e.g., graphs, tables, drawings).		
The students demonstrate their learning using representations (e.g., graphs, tables, drawings) before moving to the abstract level.		
The teacher models math concepts at the abstract level using only numbers and symbols.		
The students practice solving problems using only abstract numbers and symbols.		
The students demonstrate understanding using only numbers and symbols.		

# Math Plan

- Professional learning and coaching for elementary math coaches and educators
- Instructional/Materials Alignment with B.E.S.T. Standards
- Structured tasks with Lesson Content Framework and the expectation for manipulatives
- Effective small group instruction
- Pacing revisions

## 6. Monitor progress toward goals

Determine:

- Measure of student progress
- Measure of implementation
- Frequency of data review

# Types of Resources



**Professional Learning Modules**



**Fact Sheets**



**Tools for  
Measuring MTSS  
Components**

# Suggested Learning Series & Resources

If you are ...



An educator and want to know the basics of Problem Solving



A school-based leadership team focused on problem solving literacy at Tier 1



An MTSS coach and want to build a deeper knowledge of MTSS

Then you may like...

An Overview of 4-Step Problem Solving & The Problem Solving Fact Sheet

Tier 1 Problem Solving & Appropriate Reading Assessments for Data-Based Decision Making

Multi-tiered System of Supports: An Introduction



# More from the Florida PS/Rtl Project...

## Developing an Effective Master Schedule that Supports MTSS

### Presenters

Beth Hardcastle, Pam Sudduth, Carlos  
Blaine, Lisa Yount, *FL PS/Rtl Project*

Concurrent Session #2 (1:15-2:30 pm)

Concurrent Session #4 (4:00-5:30 pm)

# Thank you...

## And please connect with us!

The Florida Problem Solving/Response to Intervention Project

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