



Dear Cedar Families,

We are very excited to provide you with information on tiered instruction in the area of literacy at Cedar Elementary School. The students and staff might refer to this time as Response to Intervention or “RTI block”.

Throughout the school year, we monitor our students using several different benchmark assessments. The data from these assessments help guide our teachers in designing instructional plans that target the individual needs of each student. Once we determine the best approach for targeted instruction and resources, we provide that instruction in small groups in addition to our daily literacy block. These “RTI” groups meet up to three times a week for thirty minutes.

Your child may come home and report that they are working with a different teacher during this RTI\* block of time. All of the kindergarten, grade one, special education teachers and reading specialists are working collaboratively on this initiative. In addition, instructional groupings are designed to be flexible and your child’s group may change over time. This might also result in the shift of the teacher working with your child during this time. This is done to ensure that the instruction is differentiated and tailored to your child’s literacy skills as they continue to grow and evolve over time.

Please do not hesitate to contact any of us with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Michael Oates, Ellen McLaughlin, Ellen Burns and Anastasia Frank

\*Also known as Massachusetts Tiered System of Support(MTSS)

For more information on MTSS please visit:

<http://www.doe.mass.edu/sfss/mtss/blueprint.pdf#search=%22mtss%22>