What is the Intervention Assistance Team?

The Intervention Assistance Team (IAT) is a building team designed to support students, parents, and teachers. The team consists of school personnel including administrators, teachers, and counselors who will work with parents to identify possible ways to help your child experience greater success.

Why is a child referred to the Intervention Assistance Team?

Referrals for an IAT meeting occur for many different reasons. A child may be experiencing difficulties related to academic areas, social emotional areas, or health concerns.

Referrals for IAT meetings typically occur when a child is continuing to struggle despite interventions that teachers and parents put in place. The team process allows for greater exploration of potential causes and solutions to address the area of need to help the child experience greater success.

What are Interventions?

Interventions are strategies identified to help a child experience greater success. They may include utilizing different instructional approaches, providing opportunities to meet with the school counselor, development of a behavior support plan, or adjusting a child’s schedule.

Does an IAT referral mean that my child needs special education?

No, an IAT referral occurs for many different reasons and does not mean that a disability is suspected. There are times, however, that the Intervention Assistance Team, including you, as the parent/guardian, may suspect that a disability may exist.

Should I attend the IAT meeting?

Parents/Guardians are strongly encouraged to attend IAT meetings as they are vital team members who can share beneficial information. They will receive verbal notification regarding the referral from their child’s teacher, principal or psychologist. We will work with parents to accommodate schedules; however, team availability may be somewhat limited to minimize the disruptions to the teachers’ instructional time.

What will occur during the IAT Meeting?

During the IAT meeting, information regarding your child’s progress will be discussed along with the strategies which have been implemented to address the area of concern up to this time. The meeting serves as a problem-solving session in which the team, including parents, can discuss the concerns, attempt to identify potential causes, develop potential ways to address the concerns, and then analyze the possible interventions. It is through this information exchange process that effective strategies and interventions can be suggested, tested, and monitored.

The selected interventions strategies and implementations timelines are recorded, and parents are provided a copy.

A follow up meeting will be scheduled to review the success of the interventions developed. At this meeting the team may determine:

- The Interventions were successful and further intervention assistance is not needed
- The Interventions were successful and further interventions need to be added for other areas of concern.
- The interventions were somewhat effective. Further or modified interventions are needed to gather more information. A follow up meeting will be scheduled
- A disability is suspected. The team will determine what information is needed for the assessment process based upon student needs and state and federal guidelines. At this point parents are provided with information regarding their procedural safeguards related to special education. No testing will occur without parental consent. Not all special education assessments result in special education identification. A child may be found to not have a disability after the assessment process. The information obtained during the assessment process may allow for the team to develop additional interventions that help the child experience success.
For Additional Information

Contact your child’s school for additional information.

Homer Nash Kimball Elementary
David DeLong, Principal
440-428-5121

North Madison Elementary
Sally Rogus, Principal
440-428-2155

Red Bird Elementary
Lauri Cedar, Principal
440-428-2151

Madison Middle School
Tom Brady, Principal
440-428-1196

Madison High School
Bill Fisher, Principal
440-428-2161

JoEllen Hummerick, Counselor
440-428-1196

Mary Pelich, Counselor
440-428-1196

Sue Thomas, Director of Special Education
440-428-2166

Madison Board of Education
Sue Thomas, Director of Special Education
440-428-2166