

# **PBISApps Community**

The Foundational Elements of Data-Based Decision Making

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# **PBISApps Community**





What data do you look at regularly and find most helpful in work or life?



## Today's Plan

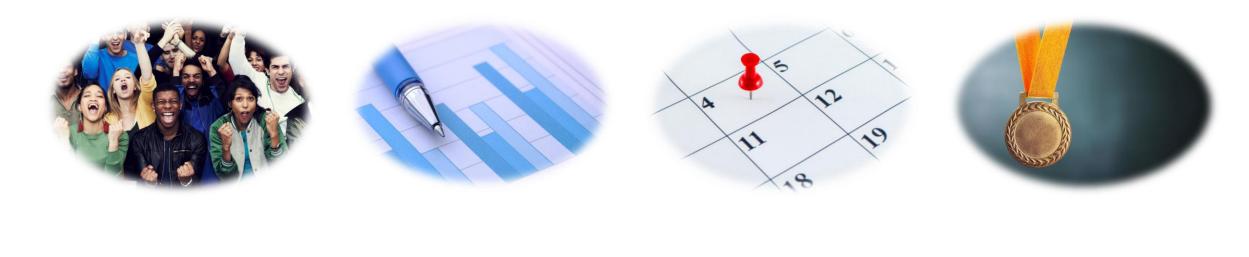


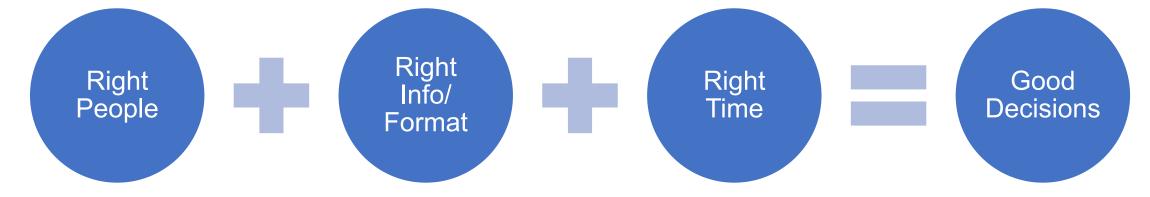
### **Topic: The foundational elements of DBDM**

- 1. An introduction to the Team Initiated Problem-Solving (TIPS) model
- 2. Practice defining problems with precision
- 3. Data scenarios and discussion time

# What is DBDM?







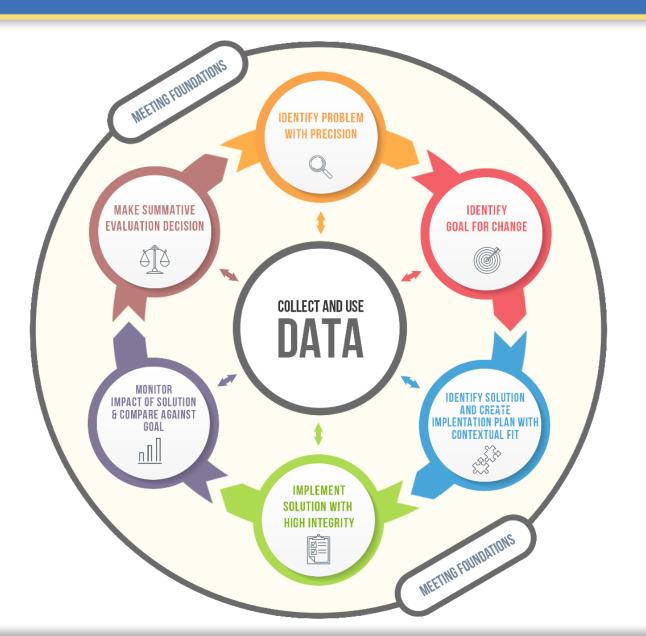
## TIPS Model



# Team-Initiated Problem Solving (TIPS) Model Sarah Falcon Ph.D.



https://www.pbis.org/training/tips



## Moving to Precision



Start with the primary statement.

 Most problems are framed in a "primary" format, which creates shared concern but is not very useful for problem solving.

Use data to create a precise problem statement.

• Everyone can then work on the same problem with the same basic assumptions about the problem context.

## Precise Problem Statements



Precise problem statements include information about the following questions:

- What is the problem behavior?
- How often is the problem happening?
- Where is the problem happening?
- Who is engaged in the behavior?
- When is the problem most likely to occur?
- Why is the problem sustaining?

## Primary Vs. Precise Statement Examples



## **Primary Statements**

We have too many referrals.

September has more suspensions than last year.

Gang behavior is increasing.

The cafeteria is out of control.

Student disrespect occurs way too often.

### **Precise Statement**

There are more ODRs for aggression on the playground than last year. These are most likely to occur during first recess, with a large number of students, and the aggression is related to getting access to the new playground equipment.

## Precision Statement Example



There are more ODRs for aggression on the playground than last year. These are most likely to occur during first recess, with a large number of students, and the aggression is related to getting access to the new playground equipment.

What?

more ODRs for aggression

• Where?

on the playground

Who?

a large number of students

• When?

first recess

• Why?

getting access to the new playground equipment

# Your turn (1-2): Primary or Precise?



Kids are using inappropriate
language with a high
frequency in the presence of
both adults and other kids.
This is creating a sense of
disrespect and chaos at school.

ODRs during December are higher than in any other month.

Primary

Primary

# Your turn (3-4): Primary or Precise?



Minor disrespect and disruption during the last 15 minutes of our 7th & 8th grade block periods are increasing. This pattern involves many students and appears to be maintained by peer attention.

Hazel is hitting others in the cafeteria during lunch for peer attention.

Precise

Precise

## **Data Scenarios**



Your teammate is sharing school-wide discipline data at the staff meeting, and the buzz is that it's not accurate. Your teammate freezes and doesn't know how to respond. What do you do?

## **Data Scenarios**



You're working with a team, and they aren't currently collecting discipline data for teacher managed behaviors, only for administrator managed. Would you encourage them to collect more data, or stick with what they're doing?

## **Data Scenarios**



The school's discipline data is pretty accurate, but staff don't understand what to select for motivation. How do you begin that conversation with them about why it matters?

## Data Resources









SEPTEMBER 9, 2025 Stay the Course: Building Habits for Stronger Data Practices While systems and practices make PBIS visible in your school, consistent, reliable data help you sustain those efforts over the long haul.

# Wrap up with Intention





What is something you are walking away with from this session?

Contact info:

training@pbisapps.org

## Bonus Time!





11:00-11:15 open for questions, problem solving, resource sharing, etc.

# The Team Initiated Problem Solving (TIPS) Model

Sarah Falcon, PhD

Newton, J. S., Horner, R. H., Algozzine, R. F., Todd, A. W., & Algozzine, K. M. (2009). Using a problem-solving model to enhance data-based decision making in schools. In W. Sailor, G. Dunlap, G. Sugai, & R. Horner (Eds.), *Handbook of Positive Behavior Support* (pp. 551-580). New York, NY: Springer. doi:10.1007/978-0-387-09632-2 23

### **TIPS**

Team-Initiated Problem Solving



# What do good meetings look like???



## Annual Team Meeting Costs for One Team

- One team of 5, meeting 45 minutes monthly
  - o 37.5 hours of time per year

\$1469.32

based on the average teacher salary
of \$38.39 per hour;
(Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2016)



Meeting Cost Calculator: InstantAgenda.com

### TIPS:

## Team-Initiated Problem Solving



#### What is TIPS?

TIPS is a decision-making model established within a standard set of meeting foundations. It's a series of steps anyone can use to move from identifying a concern to implementing a solution and measuring progress toward the goal.

#### Why Use TIPS

Teams using TIPS are more likely to use data to define situations with precision, engage in data-informed tasks, and solve situations which lead to implementation fidelity and positive student outcomes.

#### **How to Use TIPS**

Get team & coaching training Adapt for any team, using any set of data

## 3 Big Ideas of TIPS



#### **Meeting Foundations**

- Roles
- Responsibilities
- Team purpose
- Tiered decision guidelines

#### **Decision-making**

- Precise statement
- Implementation plan
- Evaluation plan

# Monitoring & Evaluation

- Use implementation data
- Use data for progress monitoring toward goal
- Tiered decision guidelines
- Meeting minutes for accountability

# Meeting Foundations: Characteristics of Effective Team Meetings



#### **Predictable**

- Start/end on time, roles, purpose/goals, phases of meeting
- Responsibilities linked to roles, projected meeting minutes/data

#### **Consistent**

 Use of meeting minutes, team agreement, use of meeting protocols & problem solving routine

#### Positive/Safe

Team agreements, use of meeting foundations

#### **Accountability**

- Fidelity of implementation
- Student outcomes
- Meeting evaluation

## Using TIPS to Strengthen Your Team



Purpose

Clarify & Define- your why

Roles

Primary & Backup

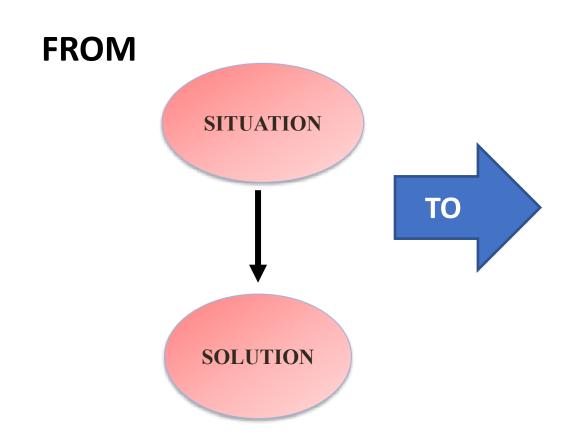
Schedule & Logistics

- When and where
- Laptop, projector, agenda (send ahead), regular process

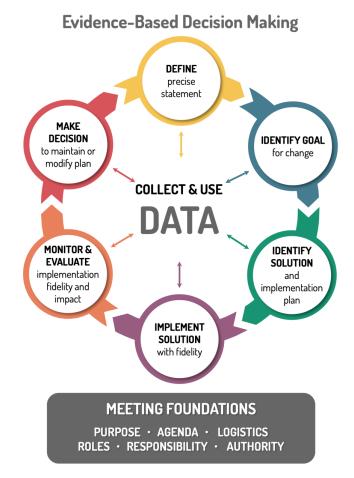
**Agreements** 

Group norms

## Improving Decision-Making

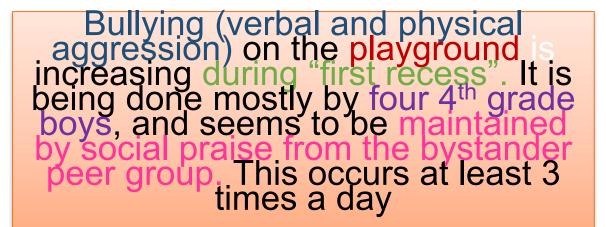


#### **DECISION-MAKING**



## Examples: Primary to Precise

 Gang-like behavior is increasing.



The buses are awful!



There were 45 referrals(across 15 days) for 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> graders using inappropriate language on the afternoon buses because these students wanted attention from their peers.

### Team-Initiated Problem Solving (TIPS) Model

#### **Evidence-Based Decision Making**



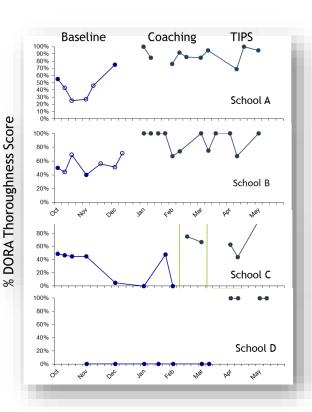


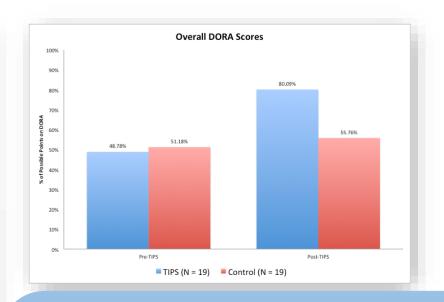
**TIPS** 

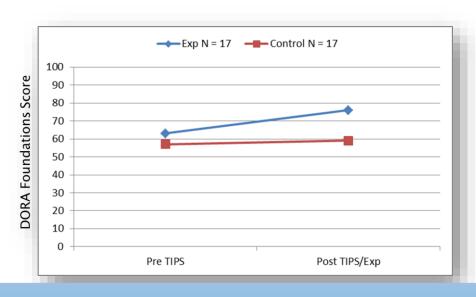
Newton, J. S., Horner, R. H., Algozzine, R. F., Todd, A. W., & Algozzine, K. M. (2009)



# **Evidence-Base for TIPS**







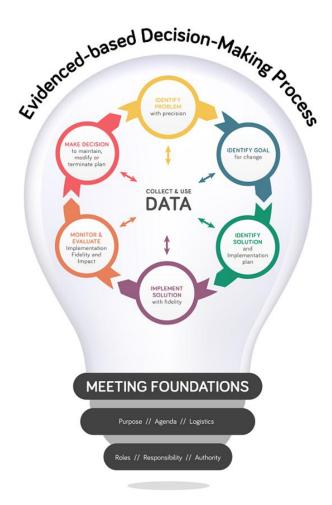
#### Key Findings:

- TIPS improves team decision-making (development of solutions)
- TIPS improves the likelihood that solutions are implemented
- Coaching is an important component
- TIPS increases the likelihood of **student outcome** improvement (both academic and behavior;
- Newton et al. 2012: Algozzine et al. 2016: Horner et al. 2018:

#### **Evidence-Based Decision Making** DEFINE precise statement DECISION **IDENTIFY GOAL** to maintain or for change modify plan COLLECT & USE **DATA** MONITOR & **EVALUATE** SOLUTION implementation fidelity and implementation impact IMPLEMENT SOLUTION with fidelity 101 **MEETING FOUNDATIONS** PURPOSE · AGENDA · LOGISTICS ROLES · RESPONSIBILITY · AUTHORITY Example

URBAN K-8 SCHOOL MCINTOSH ET AL., 2018

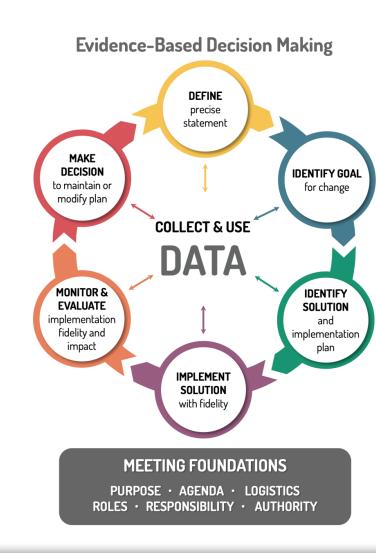
# TIPS Team-Initiated Problem Solving



# The Problem-solving Process Applied to Whole Schools

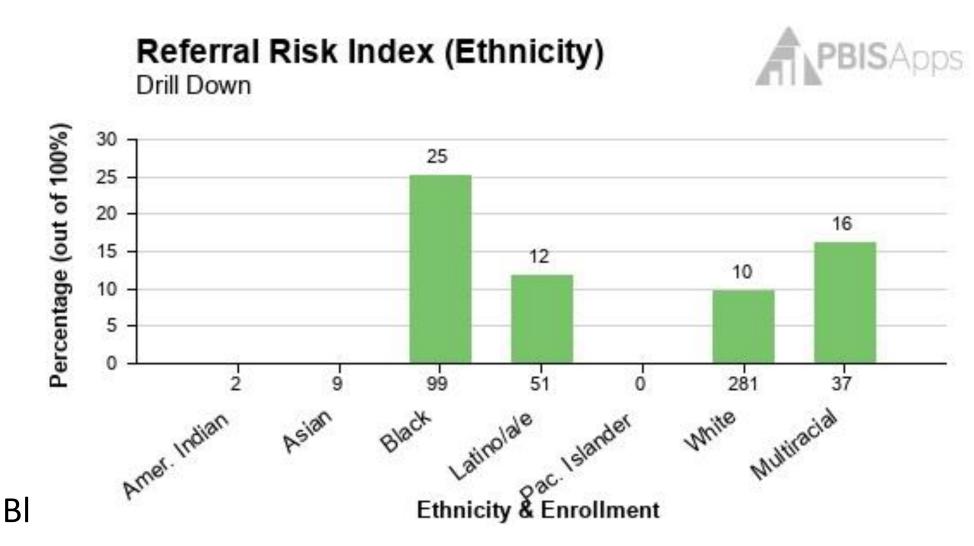


- Situation Identification
- Situation Analysis (Precise Statement)
- Intervention Development/Implementation
- Intervention Evaluation & Follow-up



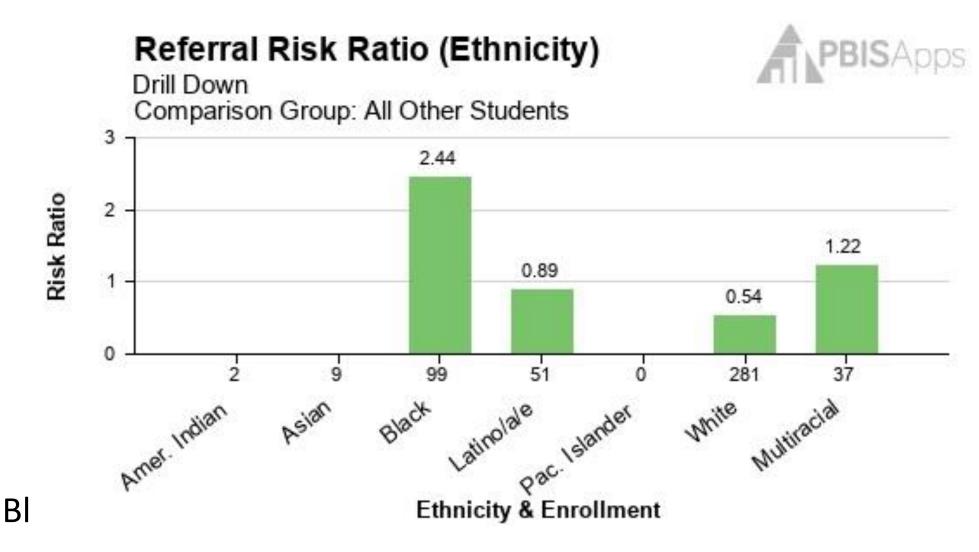


## tep 1: Situation Identification



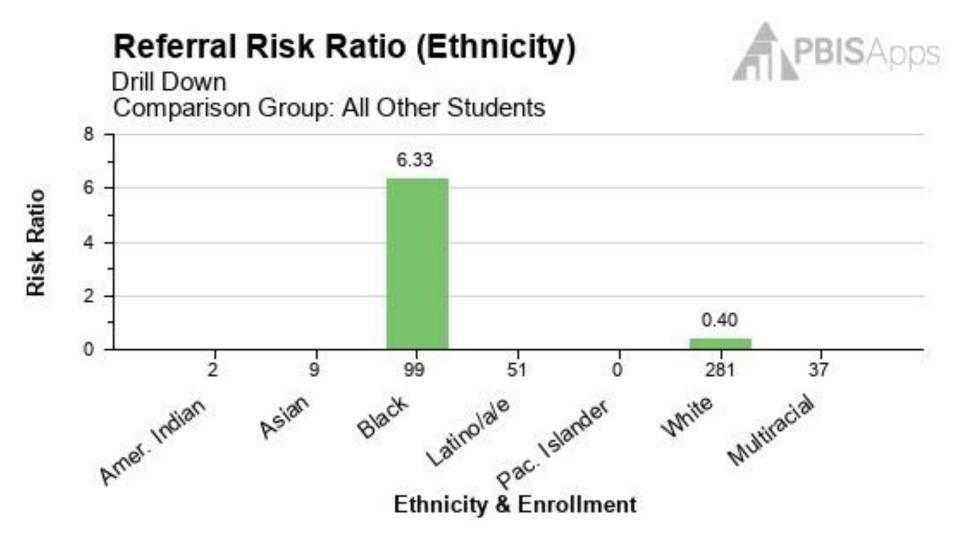


## Step 1: Situation Identification



# Step 1: Situation Analysis Define Precise Statement





Physical Aggression on Playground = 6.3

## Step 1: Situation Analysis-De<u>fine Precise Statement</u>



 We have a situation (general/primary): Black students are 2.5x more likely to receive office referrals

 Precise Statement: Black 6-7<sup>th</sup> grade students (who) are more likely to be referred for physical aggression (what) on the playground (where) at recess (when) this happens 1x per day (how often)...why?



#### Monitor ODRs and Black-White RRs

- Goal: To reduce ODR disproportionality on the playground for physical aggression by half and overall disproportionality by the end of the year
- Current Risk Ratio was: 6.3 (physical aggression on the playground), 2.44
   (overall)

# tep 3-4: Identify Solution/Implementatio lan & Implement



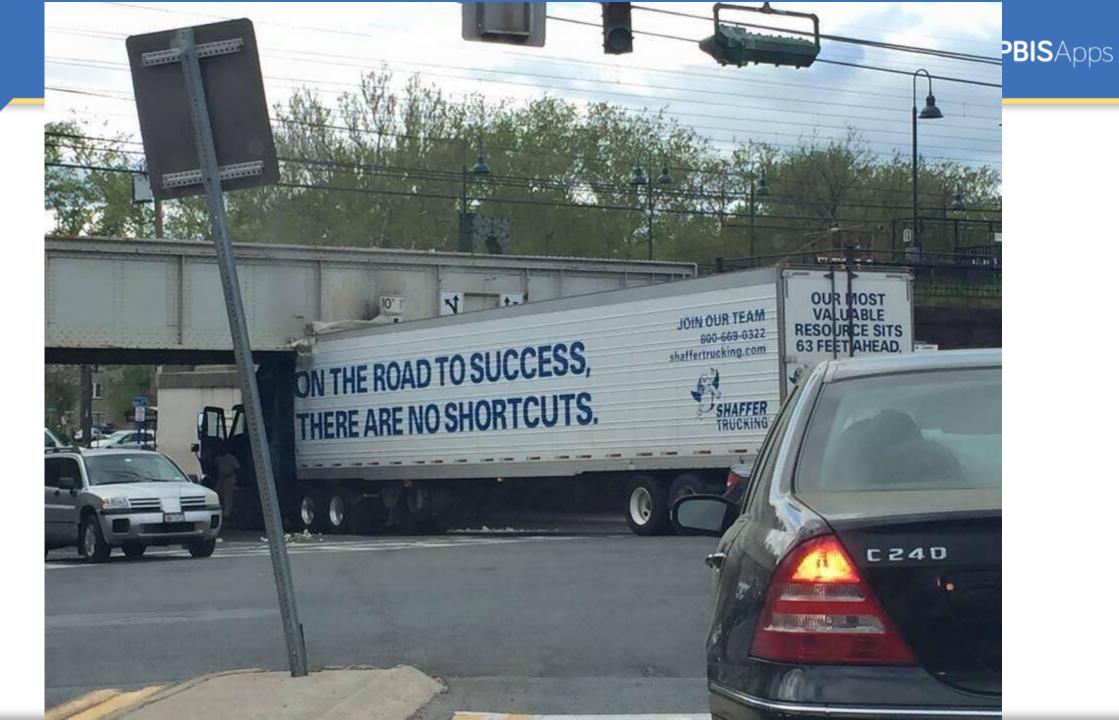
- ODRs and observations indicated differences in perceived basketball rules
  - NBA rules versus Pick-up/street game rules are different!
- Team clarified rules for staff and students!
  - Aka "code-sharing" is important
- Additional teaching, practice, and acknowledgement
- Lessons and follow-up observations

# Step 5-6: Monitor & Evaluation, Mak



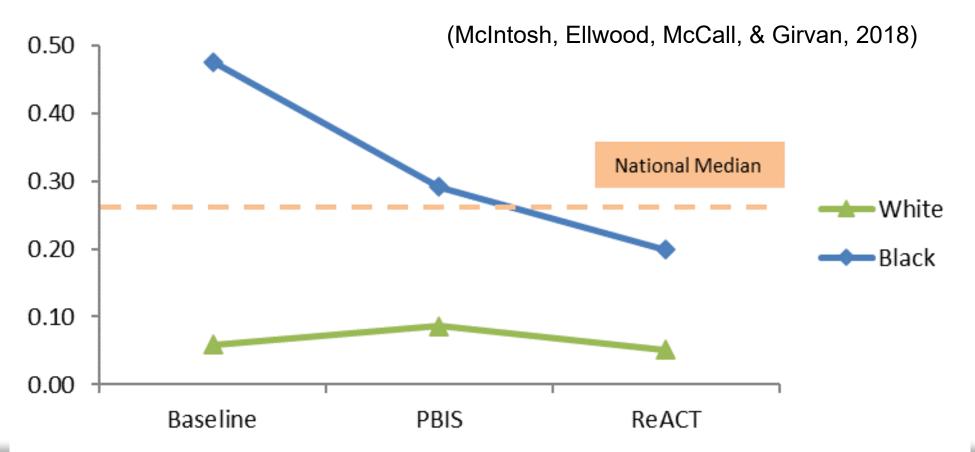
#### **Black-Other Risk Ratios**

- Overall
  - Baseline Year: 2.44
  - Intervention Year (Sept to Dec): 2.0
- Physical Aggression on Playground
  - Baseline Year: 6.3
  - Intervention Year (Sept to Dec): can't calculate (1 ODR)
  - Continue implementation but adjust lessons for new school year and what was learned





## Office Discipline Referrals Per Day Per 100 Students



#### **TIPS Study Recruitment**

Team Initiated Problem-Solving

ESSA Tier 1 Evidence-Based Practice

Elementary Schools Implementing PBIS: Not Trained in TIPS? Join the TIPS Research Study to Strengthen Your Data Teams!



#### Benefits for Schools

- TIPS (Team Initiated Problem-Solving) is a scientifically validated process for team meetings process that guides school teams in data-driven decision making.

  Teams that use TIPS are more effective in identifying situations

   Structured process for team meetings process that guides school teams in data-driven decision making.

  Training and skill development
  - Precise problem identification
  - Improved solution development
  - Time optimization
  - · Enhanced efficiency in decision making
  - · Improved student outcomes
  - · Systemic impact at student, school and district level

#### Common Team Meeting Challenges

precisely, implementing efficient solutions, and producing positive

The TIPS grant will evaluate the impact of TIPS on team functioning and decision-making as well as student academic and behavior

- X Limited participation due to lack of skills
- X Competing demands and burdened staff
- X Difficulty making unbiased decisions
- × Inefficient meeting structures

What is TIPS?

change in student outcomes.

outcomes.

- X Lack of process for problem-solving
- X Inconsistent implementation of solutions

### How TIPS Addresses These Challenges

- ✓ Provides structured process for team meetings
- ✓ Delivers training and skill development
- ✓ Enables precise problem identification
- ✓ Improves solution development
- ✓ Optimizes time usage in meetings
- ✓ Enhances efficiency in decision making

#### The TIPS Process

Define Precise Problem

2

3

Identify Goal for Change Develop Solution with Contextual

4

5

Monitor & Evaluate

Be a part of TIPS [IPS [ream-Initiated Problem Solving]]

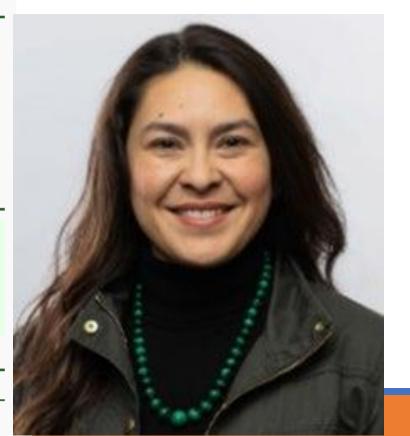
Contact us if your district/school is interested in being a part of the study

https://blogs.uoregon.edu/tips/

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