4J Data-Based Decisions at Tier 3: Optimizing PBIS with the Right Information

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Topic: Data-Based Decision Making

Keywords: Tier 3, Evaluation, Assessment

This session helps participants move from data-dumping to purposeful, data-based decision making. Learn how Tier 3 teams can ask the right questions, use fidelity and outcome data efficiently, and make small but meaningful improvements that strengthen individualized supports.

© Learning Objectives

- 1. Discuss the roles of student-focused, school, and district leadership Tier 3 teams
- 2. Describe critical sources of data needed for effective and efficient decision making to support students with individualized support needs
- 3. Provide examples of specific questions team members can ask when engaging in data-based decision making at Tier 3

Part 1: From Data-Dumping to Data-Driven Action

"We've all been in a team meeting where we have a lot of data, but we're left asking, "What do we do now?" Our goal today is to give you the tools and the questions you need to move from data to action at Tier 3."

Guiding Thought: Data have power only when used for action.

Prompt: What Tier 3 data does your team currently collect, and how often do you use it to make a decision?

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Tier 3 success depends on clearly defined teams that work together across levels of support.

Team Type	Primary Focus	Example Data Sources			
Student-Level	Individualized plans and	FBA/BIP data, direct observation,			
Student-Level	progress monitoring	progress graphs			
School-Level	Identification, system health,	SWIS, Tier 3 School-Level Systems			
School-Level	fidelity	Guide, TFI 3.0			
District Lavel	Resource allocation, coaching,	Aggregated outcomes, fidelity audits,			
District-Level	sustainability	staff feedback			

Turn & Talk : What's one challenge your current Tier 3 team faces? What's one small change that could improve it?
Notes:
Part 3: Data in Action
Use data to tell a story. When Tier 3 teams analyze progress monitoring graphs and fidelity
data, they can identify whether interventions are working and what needs to change.
Case Example : A student's data show decreasing problem behavior following targeted Tier 3 supports.
Guiding Questions from the Tier 3 Data Collection Brief (2024):
What are the student's measurable goals?
 Is the intervention being implemented with fidelity?
Are the outcomes improving, stable, or declining?
What's our next data-based step?
Notes:

Part 4: Moving from Learning to Doing

Reflect on today's session and identify one small, meaningful improvement you can make in your Tier 3 system.

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Q Ideas to Consider:

- Add fidelity checks to existing Tier 3 data reviews.
- Improve visualization of student progress data.
- Schedule monthly Tier 3 team review meetings.
- Create quick guides for decision-making aligned to the TFI.

E Key Resources & Tools

- Center on PBIS. (2022). Tier 3 Student-level Systems Guide. Center on PBIS, University of Oregon. www.pbis.org.
- Center on PBIS. (2022). Tier 3 School-level Systems Guide. Center on PBIS, University of Oregon. www.pbis.org.
- Center on PBIS. (2022). Tier 3 District-Level Systems Guide. Center on PBIS, University of Oregon. www.pbis.org.
- Strickland-Cohen, M. K., Iovannone, R., Conley, K., St. Joseph, S., Hirsch, S. E., & Putnam, R. (2024). Tier 3 data collection systems: Data for team-based decision-making [Practice Brief]. Center on PBIS. www.pbis.org.