

So much is changing: Where do schools need to go from here?

Whatever happens, the central need remains for school improvement efforts that face up to *transforming* how schools address barriers to learning and teaching and reengage disconnected students.

Why transformation? Because offering more tutoring, adding a few more student support staff, adopting MTSS, or adding other limited initiatives just can't meet the demands confronting too many schools as the number of learning, behavior, and emotional problems increase. Meeting the demands is further confounded by funding shortfalls that lead to cut backs of student and learning support personnel.

In general, the essential school improvement challenge most often ignored is that of rethinking how existing supports for student and learning can be (re)deployed to more effectively develop a unified, comprehensive, and equitable system of student/learning supports.

To meet this school improvement challenge, see

>***Building on MTSS to Enhance How Schools Address Barriers to Learning***
<https://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/pdfdocs/BuildMTSS.pdf>

>***Student/Learning Supports: A Brief Guide for Moving in New Directions***
<https://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/pdfdocs/briefguide.pdf>

For more on enhancing use of existing resources , see

>***Rethinking District Budgets to Unify and Sustain a Critical Mass of Student and Learning Supports at Schools*** <https://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/pdfdocs/financebudget.pdf>

>***Fiscal Cliff Threatens Student/Learning Supports: It's Time to Braid and Rethink Resource Use*** <https://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/pdfdocs/Fall23.pdf>

>***Financial Strategies to Aid in Addressing Barriers to Learning***
<http://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/pdfdocs/financial/fund2000.pdf>

The Center also has a Quick Find on

>***Funding and financing*** https://smhp.psych.ucla.edu/quickfind/p1404_02.htm

Let us know your views about all this. Send to Ltaylor@ucla.edu .

Best wishes and be well,

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