

## **Student Success Team (SST)**

The Student Success Team, also commonly called a Student Study Team (SST) is a positive, team-oriented approach to assisting students with a wide range of concerns related to their school performance and experience. The purpose of the SST is to identify and intervene early in order to design a support system for students having difficulty in the general education classroom.

A staff member or parent can make a referral for an SST. The SST is different from a parent-teacher conference which focuses on improving communication and addressing specific class problems. The team usually consists of a parent, teacher, administrator, and support personnel from the school. Students may also be included depending on their age.

The SST meeting provides everyone with an opportunity to share concerns and develop a plan. The interventions agreed upon will vary depending on the child's needs. Follow-up meetings are scheduled to ensure that the plan is working and to make adjustments to ensure student success. The SST is an efficient and effective way to bring together all resources in the best interest of helping students reach their potential.

For additional questions please refer to the FAQs below or speak with your child's teacher.

## **Parent FAQ for SST Process**

### **What Is The Student Success Team?**

Students are most successful when there is a cooperative effort between you, the parents, and school personnel. The Student Success Team (SST) is a collaborative team that meets at your child's school to explore ways to support students within the general education setting. When it comes to your child's education, YOU are an important part of that team. As a team member, you too can refer your child to have an SST meeting by contacting your child's teacher.

### **What If My Child has an IEP or Section 504 plan?**

SST meetings are a general education function. If your child has an IEP or Section 504 plan and you have educational concerns you should contact your child's case manager or teacher to discuss meeting options.

### **What Happens Before a Referral to the SST?**

Your child's teacher has already provided quality instruction within the core curriculum, implemented English Language Development as appropriate, and established common behavior expectations. The SST gathers and reviews information including but not limited to academic assessments, interventions and supports to assist in developing a plan to support your child's needs. This information will be reviewed with you at the SST to assist in developing a plan to support your child's needs.

**How Is a Student Selected to be Referred to the SST?**

Usually your child's teacher (or an administrator, counselor, or other school staff member) indicates that your child's learning, behavioral, or social emotional needs may not be adequately met under existing circumstances. You will already have been made aware of your child's progress prior to an SST through communication measures such as: parent/teacher conferences, email, phone calls, or in person conversations.

**Who Attends the SST?**

The team will include parents, the teacher(s) referring the student to the SST, the school administrator, and sufficient staff to review the student's needs. A staff member leads and facilitates the meeting in order to ensure all necessary elements are covered within a reasonable timeframe.

Other staff that might be present at follow-up meetings could include: special education teacher, school psychologist, speech and language specialist, school nurse, counselor, etc.

**What is discussed during the SST meeting?**

The team will review current information such as: areas of strength, areas of concern, language proficiency information, medical information, school history, previous support attempted, current assessment information, and current academic performance and social/emotional/behavioral functioning. You will be asked to add to any of these areas. You may also be asked for any other relevant background information regarding your child, such as developmental milestones, health history, or relevant family information.

A plan of action is then proposed during the meeting, with all participants helping to create this plan. Staff will designate accommodations and/or modifications as well as possible interventions to support your child within the general education setting. Suggested strategies to implement in the home setting will also be discussed.

At the end of the SST meeting, you will receive a copy of the SST form that documents all of this information. A date will be scheduled for a follow up meeting or progress summary.

**What Do I Need To Do Before The Meeting?**

Try to think of any information regarding the areas mentioned above that would be helpful to the school. You can also bring any other relevant information to the meeting, such as: health records from any medical providers, information from previous schools, tutors, etc.

**Will There Be Only One Meeting?**

At the end of the meeting, the team will schedule a follow-up date to evaluate and share the results of the actions taken and your child's response to these interventions. The goal is to ensure your child's progress with an appropriate plan of action.

**Whom Do I Contact If I Have Questions Before Coming To The Meeting?**

Contact your child's teacher or call the school office and you will be referred to the appropriate person.