



School Safety, Mental Health, & MTSS

MTSS Roundtable
December 2, 2020



ARCH



ATTACHMENT

Students feel safe and supported in their schools.

REGULATION

Students have the skills to manage their emotions and behaviors.

COLLABORATION



COMPETENCY

Students have the skills to solve problems and work with others.

HEALTH

Students are physically and mentally healthy.

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Today's Agenda

1. Overview of Collaborative Projects
2. School Safety
3. SRO Data
4. SRO & MTSS
5. Threat Assessment
6. Risk Assessment
7. SRO Training
8. Handle with Care Program

Mental Health Demonstration Project Overview

- LEA: Sodus CSD
- Partners: Wayne Behavioral Health Network, Family Counseling Services of the Finger Lakes, Delphi Rise, University of Rochester, Medaille College, SUNY Brockport, Roberts Wesleyan, Keuka College, and Nazareth College
- 6 Wayne County School Districts: Sodus, Lyons, Red Creek, Newark, North Rose-Wolcott, and Clyde-Savannah Central School Districts.
- Objectives:
 - Train school-based Mental Health providers
 - Increase the pipeline of Mental Health Professionals in Rural School Districts
 - Meet the needs of students and families

Healing Little Hearts Project Overview

- LEA: Sodus CSD
- Partners: Wayne County Sheriff's Office, Family Counseling Services of the Finger Lakes, Child Advocacy Center of the Finger Lakes, University of Rochester, Roberts Wesleyan, Nazareth College
- Objectives:
 - Identify, assess and appropriately respond to our youngest survivors (0-10) of DV, SA, dating violence, and stalking by encouraging collaboration among partners and allies.
 - In partnership with Child Advocacy Center of the Finger Lakes, improve the cooperation, communication, and capacity of our school resource officers, and other allied professionals (e.g., school administration, after school programs, Head Start staff) in identifying and making appropriate referrals for children exposed to domestic violence through high quality collaborative regional training.

School Safety Work Overview

- LEA: Sodus CSD
- Partners: Wayne County Sheriff's Office, Wayne Behavioral Health Network, and Family Counseling Services of the Finger Lakes
- 11 Wayne County School Districts: Sodus, Lyons, Marion, Gananda, Wayne, Red Creek, Newark, North Rose-Wolcott, Williamson, Palmyra-Macedon, and Clyde-Savannah Central School Districts.
- Objectives:
 - Create a Multi-disciplinary Threat Assessment Team
 - Define Prohibited and Concerning Behaviors
 - Create a Central Reporting Mechanism
 - Determining the Threshold for Law Enforcement Intervention

Why Are These Collaborations Important....

- One in five students have a mental health challenge that impacts quality of life; this increases for those students living below federal poverty level
- Early diagnosis and access to appropriate services
 - make a significant difference
 - help foster sense of school safety
 - can promote better academic and behavioral outcomes
- Ensuring mental health support for students makes schools safer

School Safety Means....

SROs Make a Difference....

Grades 5 & 6

- 93.2% = most police officers can be trusted
- 80.4% = police would rather help you than catch you doing something wrong
- 54% = would go to an SRO for help with a serious conflict or argument with another student at school
- 78.2% = having a police officer in school reduces violence

Grades 7 - 12

- 84% = most police officers can be trusted.
- 52.6% = believe there is a need for a program to reduce violence in school
- 63.2% = said that having a police officer in schools reduces violence
- 42.4% = said if they had a serious conflict or argument with another student at school, they would go to the SRO for help

SROs Make a Difference....

- Among non-white students, the proportion feeling safe increased in SRO schools while it decreased in schools without an SRO.
- Compared to 2017, students in schools with an SRO reported 23% fewer absences in 2019 while students in schools without an SRO showed 5.2% increase in absences.

SROs Make a Difference....

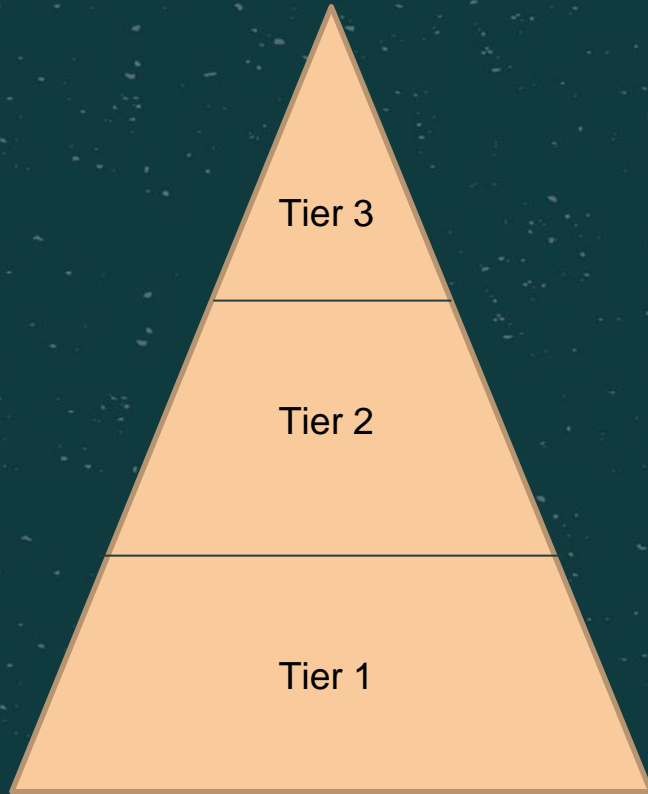
SRO Service Hours

Patrol School	2032	30.0%
No follow-up needed	1701	25.1%
Assistance	793	11.7%
Conflict Resolution	625	9.2%
Planning/Administrative	205	3.0%
Referred to Admin	195	2.9%
Educational Opportunity	180	2.7%
Advise Student	158	2.3%
Follow-up needed	152	2.2%
Criminal Investigation	147	2.2%
Safety Concern	133	2.0%
Safety Meeting	97	1.4%
Planning	96	1.4%
Safety Drill	70	1.0%
After School Activity	63	0.9%
Appears Safe	42	0.6%
Training	35	0.5%
Juvenile Referral	31	0.5%
Arrest	9	0.1%
Incident Report	9	0.1%
Hearing	4	0.1%
Total Hours	6777	100.0%



SROs & MTSS....

SROs & MTSS

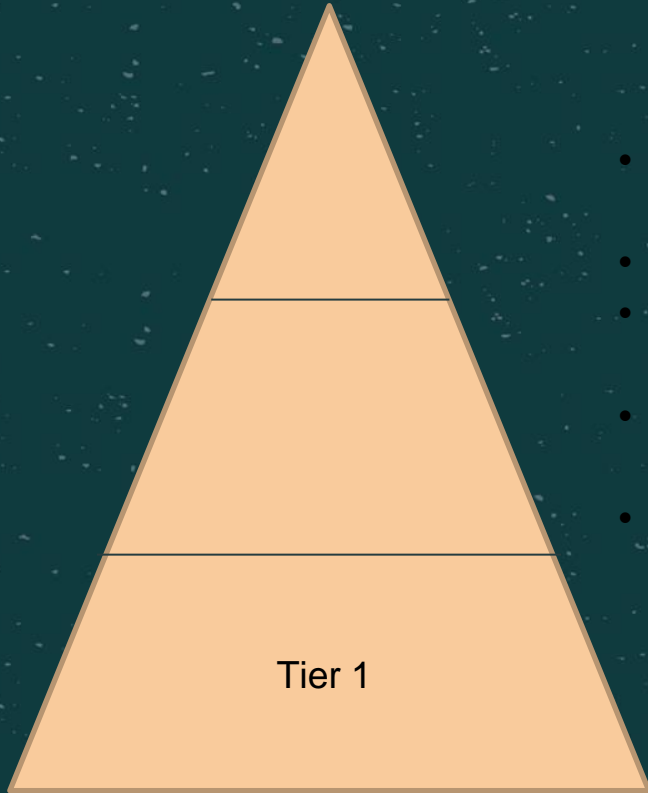


Do you incorporate your School Resource Officer into your MTSS plan?

The SRO should be integral to your MTSS plan!!

SROs & MTSS

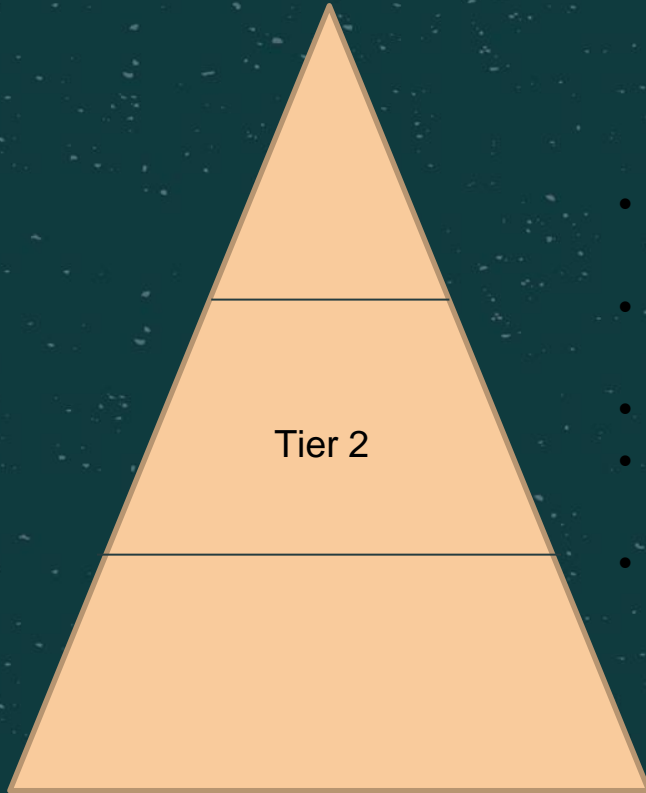
Tier 1



- Have an SRO lunch table or have the SRO rotate through tables, joining students for lunch
- SRO participation or challenges in physical education classes
- Having the SRO present practical applications in subject matter classes
- Invite the SRO to be a greeter to meet parents at open house events
- Incorporate the SRO with the faculty in events such as talent shows

SROs & MTSS

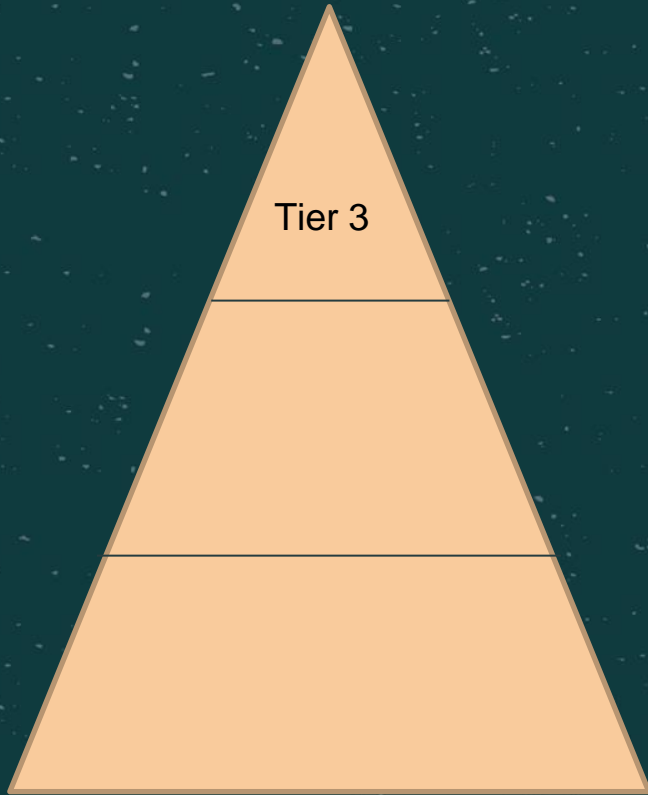
Tier 2



- SRO should regularly participate in Tier 2 meetings when possible
- Have the SRO as a possible trusted adult to approach a student regarding attendance
- SRO leads community circles with peer groups
- Use the SRO on home visits to help explaining to caregivers potential consequences of truancy (make us the bad guy).
- Threat assessment follow-ups can/should be conducted in Tier 2 meetings

SROs & MTSS

Tier 3



- Active participation in home visits and parent meetings
- Fun time with the SRO as a reward (grades, behavior, etc)
- Have the SRO remove the student from class occasionally for a “5 min break” so there is a positive removal from class and the student can also practice returning to class properly
- SRO can send home positive postcards (also Tier 1 and 2)
- Use the SRO as an alternative option or location for a more private setting for discipline or breaks if appropriate and available
- Have the SRO accompany home visits

Q & A



Four Tenets of Our Work...

1. Threat Assessment
2. Risk Assessment
3. SRO Training
4. Handle with Care Program

Risk Assessment & Threat Assessment
are interchangeable terms?

Threat Assessment: Some Key Terms....

Prevention: means the capabilities necessary to avoid, deter, or stop an imminent crime or threatened or actual mass casualty incident. Prevention is the action schools take to prevent a threatened or actual incident from occurring

Protection: means the capabilities to secure schools against acts of violence and manmade or natural disasters. Protection focuses on ongoing actions that protect students, teachers, staff, visitors, networks, and property from a threat or hazard

Mitigation: means the capabilities necessary to eliminate or reduce the loss of life and property damage by lessening the impact of an event or emergency. In this document, “mitigation” also means reducing the likelihood that threats and hazards will happen

Response: means the capabilities necessary to stabilize an emergency once it has already happened or is certain to happen in an unpreventable way; establish a safe and secure environment; save lives and property; and facilitate the transition to recovery

Recovery: means the capabilities necessary to assist schools affected by an event or emergency in restoring the learning environment

Threat Assessment: Some Key Terms....

Lockdown: A lockdown takes place if an immediate internal threat is identified at the school. All school doors are locked, and students are confined to classrooms. No entry into or exit from the school will be allowed until students and staff are released by uniformed law enforcement. Students will **NOT** be released during a lockdown.

Lockout: A lockout takes place if an external threat is identified at or nearby the school. All school doors are locked however instruction continues as normal. No entry into or exit from the school will be allowed until an “all-clear” announcement is made. Students will **NOT** be released during a lockout.

Shelter/Hold in Place: Students take refuge in designated areas to protect them from hazardous materials or severe weather. No entry into or exit from the school will be allowed until an “all-clear” announcement is made. Students will **NOT** be released during a shelter/hold-in-place.

Evacuation: In the event of certain building emergencies, students will be relocated to an evacuation assembly area. Students will be released **ONLY** to parents/guardians with picture ID and permission from a district official. This procedure is necessary to account for all students.

What is a Functional Annex....

- ❖ Evacuation Annex
- ❖ Lockdown Annex
- ❖ Shelter in Place Annex
- ❖ Accounting for All Persons Annex
- ❖ Communication and Warning Annex
- ❖ Family Reunification Annex



Threat Assessment Teams

Building Level Team: Immediate Threats

District Level Team: Further Investigation

County Level Team: Complex Threats

Critical Incident Debrief Team: Talk about it!

Risk Assessment: Some Key Terms...

Protective Factors: a characteristic at the biological, **psychological**, family, or community (including peers and culture) level that is associated with a lower likelihood of problem outcomes or that reduces the negative impact of a **risk factor** on problem outcomes

Risk Factors: a characteristic at the biological, psychological, family, community, or cultural level that precedes and is associated with a higher likelihood of problem outcomes

Suicidal Ideation: is thinking about, considering, or planning suicide. Measured in terms of frequency, intensity, and duration.

Plan & Intent: extent to which the student (1) expects to carry out the plan and (2) believes the plan/act to be lethal or self-injurious

Clinical Judgement: the thought process (**clinical** reasoning) that allows **healthcare** providers to arrive at a conclusion (**clinical decision**-making) based on objective and subjective information about a patient.

Mental Health Arrest (MHA): non-criminal arrest of a person that is immediate danger to themselves or others



Risk Assessment Work Group



Jim Haitz, Director of Wayne County Mental Health

Margi Taber, Community Schools Coordinator for Behavioral Health, Wayne Behavioral Health Network

Dr. Iusi Rusu, Staff Psychiatrist, Wayne Behavioral Health Network

Jesse Strazzabosco, School Psychologist, Lyons CSD

Steve Humbert, School Psychologists, Sodus CSD

Tane Robinson, UPK-5 Dean of Students & Trauma Informed Schools Coordinator, Palmyra Macedon CSD

Brian Pitt, SRO, North Rose Wolcott CSD

Rebecca Adams, WIOA Youth Counselor, Sodus CSD

Dr. Hennessey Lustica, Community Schools Mental Health Director



How Can You Help Your SRO?

- Educate your SRO as to what MTSS is and how they can help by being part of the process
- Explain what SEL and Individualized Learning is and why it is important
- Invite them to participate in the classroom and in community circles
- Include your SRO on emails or meetings regarding students of concern, as they may have insight regarding what may be taking place outside of the school
- Involve the SRO in as many positive and fun activities as possible



How We Can Help Your SRO...

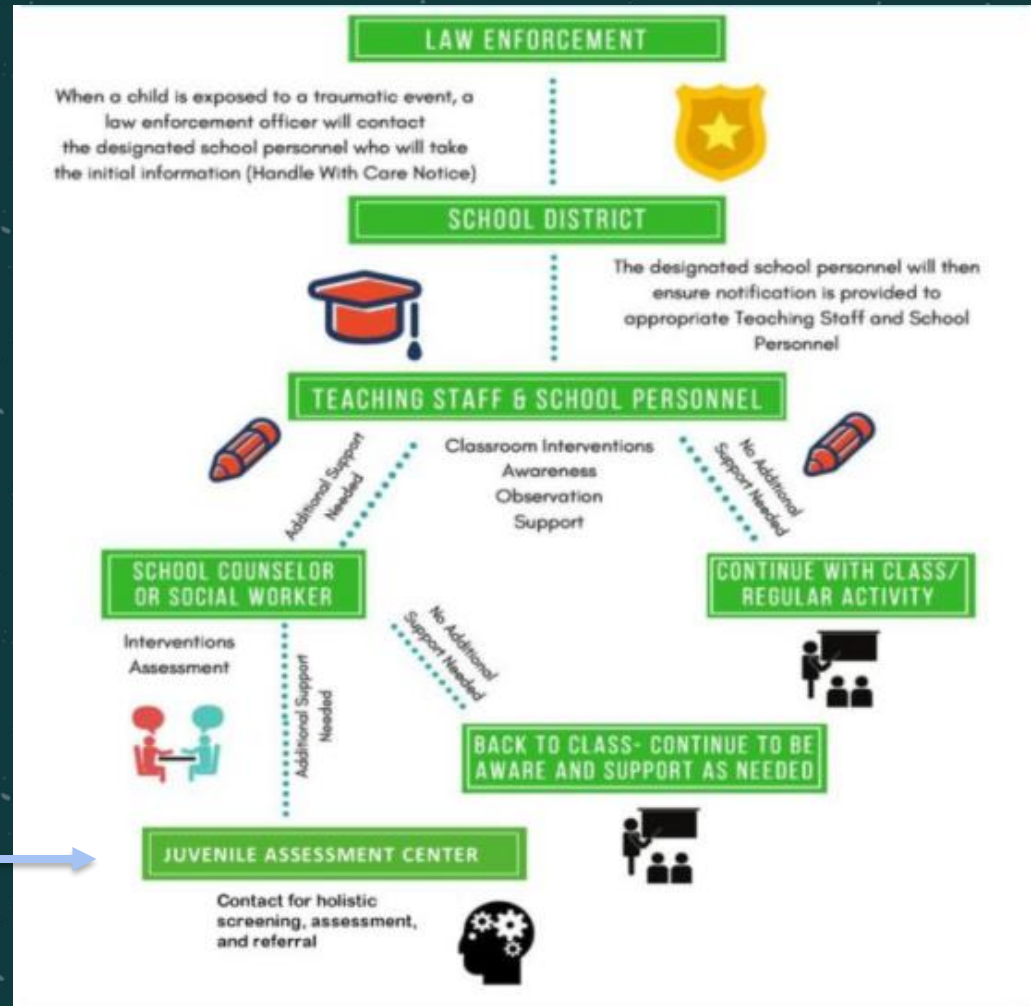
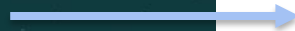
- Trainings to be scheduled in March:
 - (1) MTSS, Mental Health, SEL, Restorative Practices
 - (2) FERPA, Expectations of the SRO (school and Sheriff's office perspectives)
 - (3) Risk Assessment & Minimal Facts Guidelines roll-out
- Ongoing Community of Practice

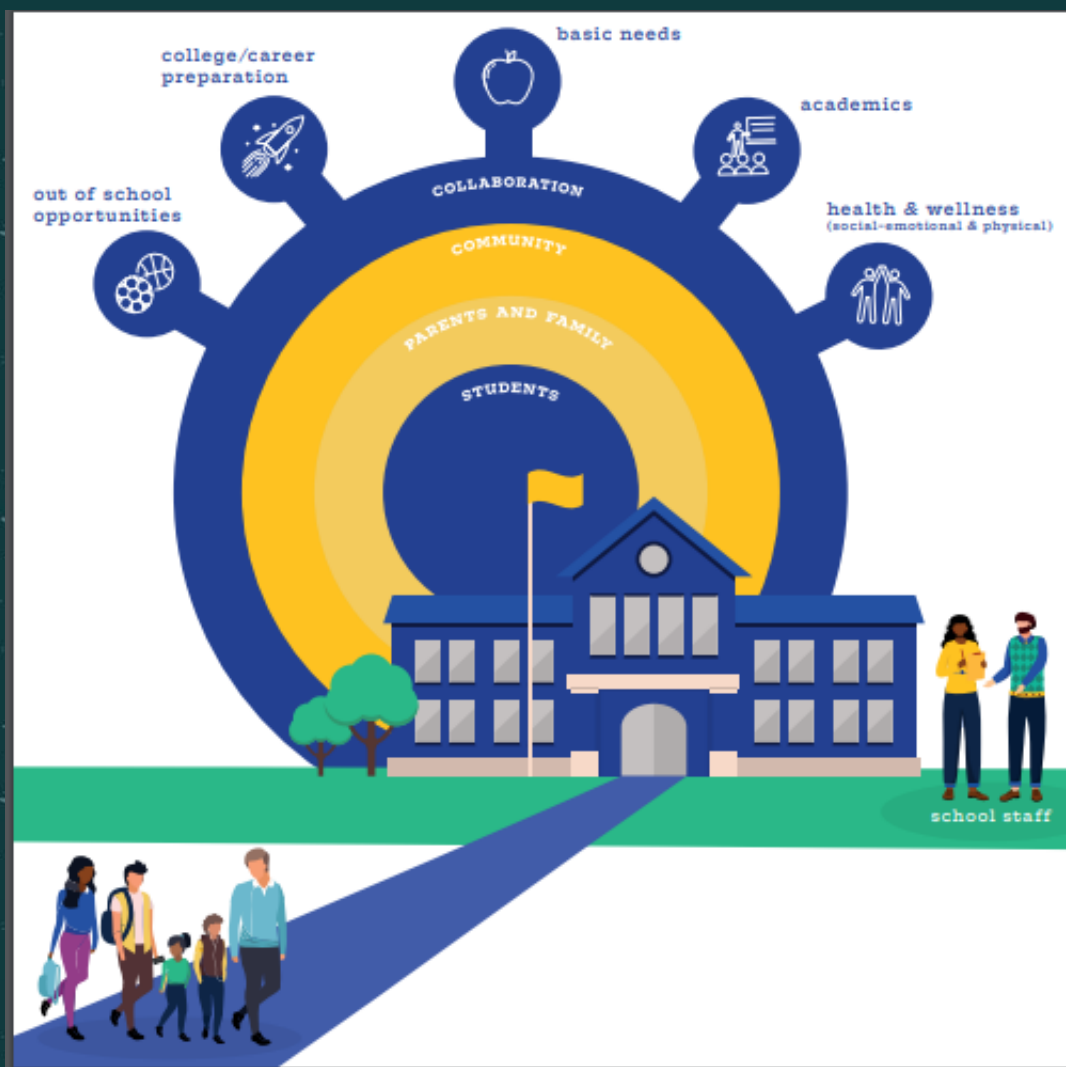


Handle with Care Program

Community Schools

MTSS
CAC
WBHN
FCSFL





My Biggest Takeaway Today...



THANKS!

Brian Pitt, School Resource Officer, NRW CSD
Margi Taber, Community Schools Coordinator for Behavioral Health, WBHN
Dr. Hennessey Lustica, Community Schools Mental Health Director, Sodus CSD

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