



What is Instructional Support?

The Instructional Support Team (IST) here at Spring-Ford Area School District has been developed to foster success for individuals in the general education setting. Along with this goal, IST at Spring-Ford will use a team approach to create action plans in order to benefit the Individual student by addressing not only the needs of the student but their specific strengths as well. These action plans will include specific interventions targeted to address the student's needs in the general education setting.



In the IST program at Spring-Ford, each member of the team provides input to help the student achieve success.

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Instructional Support Team



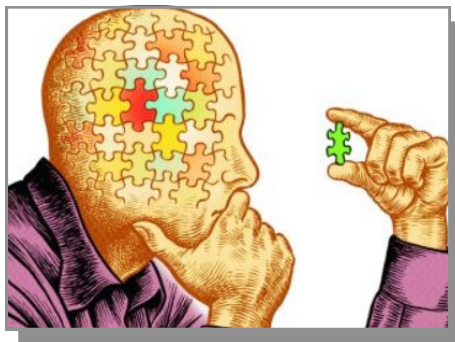
A Parent's Guide to the IST Process

"Supporting Student Success"

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Spring-Ford Area School District—IST Process



What is the IST process?

The IST process involves four basic steps:

1. Identify a student's specific need for academic, behavioral, and/or social support.
2. Determine the specific strategies necessary to aid the student in identified areas of need.
3. Put into place intervention strategies which would be implemented in a variety of academic and social settings.
4. Support teachers and staff members toward the goal of implementing these interventions to help the student improve upon academic, behavioral, and social skills.

Who is involved in the IST process?

The team may include the following members: parents, classroom teacher, school principal, instructional support personnel, school counselor, reading support personnel, and other school staff involved with implementing the process.

Requesting Assistance

Teachers seeing a need arise may request assistance from IST by completing the appropriate forms. Parents may also request help from IST by contacting either their child's teacher or the IST teacher themselves. The school's counselor or the school's principal would also be able to assist a parent with getting the IST process started.



The Next Step...

Following a request for assistance, the instructional support teacher will begin to collect data. This data would focus on helping the team to identify possible interventions for the student's educational program. This data may include classroom observations, benchmark tests, curriculum based assessments, or classroom projects.

The IST Meeting

For each IST meeting, these basic steps will be followed:

- ◆ A summary of the collected data is discussed
- ◆ Specific needs of the student are identified
- ◆ Team determines the goal for the student's program
- ◆ Brainstorming on the ways in which to reach the established goal
- ◆ Both school and home interventions are selected
- ◆ Implementation plan for the interventions is developed
- ◆ Determinations for progress monitoring are formed
- ◆ Scheduling of a follow-up meeting to review plan and assess progress

