

FEBRUARY 2026

WELCOME TO THE

NC MTSS Implementers Newsletter



Dear MTSS Implementers,

February is flying by, and with spring just around the corner, we'll be closing out another school year before we know it!

In this month's newsletter, you'll find exciting details about our annual **LifT Networking Session**. We can't wait to see you there! We're also sharing **UPDATED** registration information for our statewide behavior training series, **Finish STRONG!** Our apologies for any confusion.

You will also find two opportunities to see impressive Core supports in action at Wake County Public School System and IC Imagine Charter School. We hope you can join us for these two in-person events.

Be sure to check out the Regional Corner as well, where you'll learn about meaningful and impactful district training taking place in **Rowan-Salisbury School System** and **Kannapolis City Schools**.

As always, we appreciate you and the incredible work you do. We see you — and we're grateful for you!

Your IABS Team

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

We're putting the finishing touches on the **2026 LiFT Networking Session** agenda—and it's going to be incredible! Get ready for a powerhouse lineup of speakers showcasing innovative, collaborative work in behavior, digital teaching and learning, multilingual learners, NCSIS, School Health Advisory Councils, and so much more.

You won't just attend—you'll engage. Bring your own challenges and ideas, help shape the conversation, and learn side-by-side with MTSS colleagues from across the state. This dynamic, interactive experience is open to all MTSS implementers—so don't miss it. Register today and share the excitement with your district and school teams!

APRIL 17, 2026
9:00 AM - 12:30 PM
[REGISTRATION LINK](#)

Save The Date!
April 17th, 2026
Virtual

2026 NC MTSS
LiFT
Networking Session

MTSS

- Multiple Tiers of Instruction and Intervention Model
- Leadership
- Building Capacity/Implementation Infrastructure
- Communication and Collaboration
- Problem Solving Process
- Data/Evaluation

Something for everyone. Something for you. Connect, learn, share knowledge and hope together.

FINISH STRONG!



Practical Social, Emotional and Behavior (SEB) Strategies for the Final Stretch

FINISH STRONG! is a virtual series that offers educators easy-to-use strategies that support structure, engagement, and a positive learning environment as the academic year wraps up.

1

Core SEB Strategies

- Feb 25 (3:30-4:30) or
- Feb 26 (11:30-12:30)

2

Supplemental SEB Supports

- Mar 23 (3:30-4:30) or
- Mar 26 (11:30-12:30)

3

Optional Follow Up Office Hours

- Mar 12 (11:30-12:30)
- Apr 8 (11:30-12:30)

[UPDATED Registration Links](#)



State Highlight

The NC Teacher Working Conditions (TWC) Survey provides meaningful data at all levels. This data can be especially meaningful for district and school improvement efforts within your MTSS.

Weekly NC Teacher Working Conditions (TWC) Survey Office Hours

Have questions about the 2026 NC Teacher Working Conditions Survey? NCDPI is hosting TWC Survey **Lunch Hour virtual sessions every Thursday through March 31, from 12:30–1 p.m.**, giving educators and staff a convenient drop-in opportunity to ask questions and share feedback about the TWC Survey.

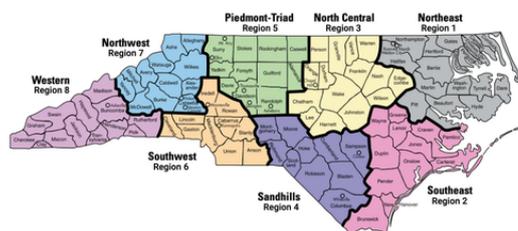
[Participants may join at any time during the session at this link.](#)

Additional information on the 2026 NC TWC Survey can be found at nctwcs.org.

As a reminder, this year's survey will be administered from **March 2-31**.

Regional Corner

TWO SCHOOL DISTRICTS ARE LEARNING ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF CRUCIAL CONVERSTATIONS!



District staff, coaches, and administrators from **Rowan-Salisbury School System** and **Kannapolis City Schools** are participating in *Crucial Conversations for Mastering Dialogue* training. This two-day training is aimed at equipping leaders to handle high-stakes, emotional, and contentious discussions effectively. It teaches skills to build trust, foster open communication, and reach mutual, actionable agreements—thereby improving relationships, performance, and decision-making in both professional and personal settings.

Crucial Conversations strengthens MTSS implementation by focusing on dialogue rather than conflict or silence. The training aims to improve decision-making, increase team productivity, and strengthen commitment to action.

We look forward to continued great work from these two districts.

Upcoming Opportunities

Last Call for proposals!

Time to Show Off Your Work!



The **2026 RISE Back to School Safety Summit** will be held Aug. 4 - Aug. 6 at the Greenville Convention Center. This is a great opportunity to share your tiered social, emotional and behavior supports and how they are directly tied to creating safe, inclusive environments for both students and adults.

The deadline to complete the **Call for Proposals** has been extended to **Monday, March 2**. If you have questions about submitting a proposal or would like to discuss ideas, please feel free to reach out to anne.nixon@dpi.nc.gov.

NC Public Schools Awarded More Than \$11 Million to Expand School-Based Mental Health Services

The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction has received over \$11 million in federal funding from the U.S. Department of Education to expand school-based mental health services, especially in high-need and rural districts.

Part of a \$208 million nationwide investment, the grants will support school psychology training, recruitment, and retention. About \$4.8 million will fund the NC School Psychology Internship Program (NC SPIn), providing stipends, supervision, and specialized training to increase access to school psychologists and **strengthen student mental health support**.

All LEAs that are included have been contacted. For more information, reach out to Megan.Cardin@dpi.nc.gov

SCHOOL CLIMATE STATE SHOWCASE

*FREE
event!*

Evidence-based practices are shaping school climates across WCPSS. Join us to experience staff voices, innovative school supports and communities focused on belonging and student wellbeing.



Tuesday, March 24, 2026



8:30 am - 12:00 pm



Crossroads III, Room 1

**111 Corning Road
Cary, NC 27518**

Register Here



For more information contact:
Dr. DeShawna Gooch
dgooch2@wcpss.net

FREE event!



Experience how social emotional learning takes flight at IC Imagine!



Wed. April 22, 2026



8:30 A.M. – 11:30 A.M.



110 Champion Way
Asheville, NC



Amanda Bell
MTSS Behavioral Health Coordinator
amandabell@icimagine.org



sign up here!

REGISTER:
<https://forms.gle/CiSkEs8UB63jQk5c6>

*don't
forget!*

FAM Season is Here!

If you haven't scheduled your FAM-D facilitation, please **reach out to your Regional IABS Consultant TODAY!**



Stay Connected!

IABS Regional Support Consultants

[Julie Weatherman](#), West
[BriAnne Hall](#), Northwest
[Holly Williamson](#), Piedmont-Triad
[Jade Tornatore](#), Southwest
[IABS Statewide Consultants](#), Sandhills
[IABS Statewide Consultants](#), North Central
[Courtney Moates](#), Southeast
[Osmond Lister](#), Northeast

Charter/Non-Traditional Schools Support Consultant

[Ashley Springs](#), MTSS Statewide Support

IABS Statewide Support Consultants

[Sara Newman](#), MTSS Statewide Support
[Anne Nixon](#), MTSS Statewide Support
[Alisha Schiltz](#), MTSS Statewide Support

IABS-MTSS Team and Statewide Support

[Angel Goodwine-Batts](#), IABS State Team Lead



NC MTSS
integratedsystems@dpi.nc.gov

Follow us on [Facebook](#) & [Instagram](#)