Multi-Tiered System of Support
Alternatives-to-Suspension

Intensive
Focus on needs of individual student.

Targeted
Focus on early intervention and problem-solving.

Universal
Focus on prevention.

SYSTEMIC APPROACH
For individual student:
Implement assessment-based intervention(s).
Convene a collaborative support team; determine if student is in need of additional services through school, community or other agency.
Make adjustments to environment.
Teach replacement skills.
Build general competencies.
Reinforce positive behaviors.
Develop a crisis management plan.

PRACTICE EXAMPLES
One to one support.
Individual counseling.
Coordinated behavior plan.
Alternative programming.
Appropriate in-school suspension.
Restorative conferencing.
Life skills training.

SYSTEMIC APPROACH
For some students:
Select targeted, evidence-based instruction to build skills.
Differentiate interventions based on needs of student.
Monitor academic and behavior progress.
Implement restorative practices and mediation programs.

PRACTICE EXAMPLES
Behavior Contracts.
Mini-courses or skill modules.
Mediation.
Brief Interventions.
Mentoring.
Social Skills Training.
Restitution.
Community Service.
Problem-solving Circles.

SYSTEMIC APPROACH
For ALL students:
Implement a whole child approach.
Teach, model and reinforce behavior expectations and social/emotional learning competencies.
Intentionally create a caring, respectful school community.
Embed culturally responsive practices and instruction.
Actively engage staff, students and parents/families.
Develop discipline policy that includes alternatives-to-suspension.

PRACTICE EXAMPLES
Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS).
Social-Emotional Learning Competencies (SEL).
Collaborative Problem-solving.
Bully Prevention.
Academic Engagement.
Differentiated Instruction.
Restorative Justice.
Peer Mediation.
Conflict de-escalation.

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