1. What is Response to Intervention? (RTI)?

Response to Intervention (or RTI) is a data-driven, multi-tiered system of support that is designed to help struggling learners in general education settings.

- Tier 1: For all students, effective classroom instruction is provided.
- Tier 2: For students who need additional support, small group interventions are provided.
- Tier 3: For students who need intensive support, more intensive interventions are provided.

2. What do services look like in each RTI tier?

- **Tier 1**: Strategies are used for all students across a campus. Screening helps to identify students who are “at risk” of falling behind their peers academically or behaviorally. Small groups of differentiated instruction are implemented to target students’ unique strengths and weaknesses.

- **Tier 2**: Students in need of greater support will be bumped up to Tier 2. Students may receive extra lessons in small groups two or three times a week to supplement core instruction. Teachers will monitor student progress with valid assessment at least twice a month.

- **Tier 3**: Students in need of even greater support will be bumped up to Tier 3. Students may break away from their core classroom every day for targeted lessons. Teachers will monitor student progress with valid assessments once a week.

3. What information must schools provide about RTI?

When school officials move a child from Tier 1 to a higher service level, they must notify parents with the following information:

- Descriptions of the RTI services that will be used
- Estimated durations of RTI service delivery
- Data collected at Tier 1
- Time frames for progress reports
- Information about special education evaluations

4. When can you make a special education referral?

You can request a special education evaluation at any time during the RTI process. However, this practice directly violates guidance from the Department of Education and should no longer occur in public schools. RTI strategies cannot be used to delay or deny special education evaluations. If you suspect a disability, you can request an evaluation at any time.