What Challenges Can Schools and Districts Anticipate in Implementing Response to Intervention (RtI)?
The Building RtI Capacity Project

• Develop and disseminate resources to facilitate RtI implementation in Texas schools
• Partner with Education Service Center (ESC) RtI Liaisons to provide professional development and technical assistance to schools
• Develop resources and maintain a Web site
• Provide technical assistance to two Spotlight 3-Tier Reading/Math schools
Key Components of RtI

“RtI is the practice of

(1) providing high-quality instruction/intervention matched to student needs and

(2) using learning rate over time and level of performance to

(3) make important education decisions. These three components of RtI are essential.”

Key Components of RtI (cont.)

RtI is a framework built on these components:

• All students receive high-quality core content area instruction.

• All students are screened to identify those who are making adequate grade-level progress and those who are falling behind and at risk for learning difficulties.

• At-risk students are provided with immediate, research-based intervention instruction.

• At-risk students’ progress is monitored frequently to ensure the intervention is meeting their needs.

• Professional development is provided to educators to enhance the instruction and intervention they provide.
The Implementation Flowchart

1—Getting Started

2—Implementation

Implement Action Plan

Student Assessment | Core Content Area | Interventions | Professional Development

3—Monitoring Implementation

Review Progress and Revise Action Plan
Challenges Faced During Implementation
Implementation Challenges

• Time/Scheduling
• Classroom management
• Resistance
• Instructional changes
• Leadership changes
• Funding
Time/Scheduling

- Addressing components of RtI, such as time to test and progress monitor
- Scheduling: small groups, interventions, collaborative meetings
- Instructional time

It takes time for implementation. Don’t give up!
Classroom Management

- Implementing small groups
- Using work stations/centers
- Establishing routines
- Dealing with transitions
Resistance

- Addressing resistance to change
- Dealing with negativity
- Communicating successes

Go with the goers!
Instructional Changes

• Using data to inform daily instruction
• Providing professional development
• Focusing on individual needs
• Documenting student responses
Instructional Changes (cont.)

• Building teachers’ knowledge and expertise

• Establishing the critical relationship between assessing students and delivering data-driven, tailor-made intervention to at-risk students

• Promoting an inquiry-based approach to intervention
Leadership Changes

• Obtaining and maintaining “buy-in”
• Delegating leadership responsibilities to support implementation
• Using data to inform decisions
• Planning for sustainability
Funding

• Finding funding to implement RtI
• Reallocating resources
Leading Success

• Approach as a team
• Take “baby steps”
• Be consistent
• Communicate/Collaborate
• Maintain openness and flexibility
• Be patient
Secrets to Success

- Hold high expectations
- Accept no excuses
- Support life-long learners
- Ongoing communication with stakeholders
- BUILD CAPACITY!
Building RtI Capacity Web Site

http://buildingRTI.utexas.org

• Information about RtI
• Access to presentations
• Tools and resources
• Parent information
• Implementation examples
Contact Information

Pam Bell Morris, Ph.D.
pbmorris@mail.utexas.edu

Desiree Pallais
desiree.pallais@mail.utexas.edu

Kathleen Walker
kathleen_walker@mail.utexas.edu
Web Site Resources

Building Capacity for RtI Project
http://buildingRTI.utexas.org

Texas Education Agency
www.tea.state.tx.us/curriculum/RtI/index.html
Questions?
References

Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA 2004), P.L. 108–446.
