

Brandi Simonsen | Vermont BEST Summer Institute | Summer 2025

#### 1. Why focus on classroom PBIS practices for students with disability?

- Where do students with disability "fit" within a PBIS/MTSS framework?
  - o Everywhere! All means all!
- Why is this critical?
  - >7.5 million students are identified with disabilities and make up ~15% of the student population
  - Students with disabilities experience disproportionately high levels of seclusion,<sup>1</sup> restraint,<sup>1</sup> and other exclusionary discipline<sup>2</sup>
- What can we do to improve outcomes for students with disability?
  - o Effective classroom practices are directly linked to students' behavioral and academic outcomes.<sup>3</sup>
  - Students' academic & behavior outcomes are closely related.<sup>4</sup>
  - Students with disability have less access to effective classroom practices (e.g., fewer proactive and more reactive behavior strategies) and experience poorer outcomes.<sup>5</sup>
  - Therefore, it's critical that we invest in effective classroom practices for ALL students to improve outcomes for ALL students, including students with disability.<sup>6</sup>
- When done well, PBIS improves outcomes for all students and educators,<sup>7</sup> including students with disability!<sup>8</sup>

**Q**- Classroom PBIS practices are critical for *all* students, including students with disabilities

### 2. What does classroom PBIS look like?

- Create a robust and differentiated foundation of classroom support by...
  - o Supporting and Respodning to Students' Social, Emotional, and Behavioral Needs<sup>9</sup>
  - o Supporting Students with Disabiliteis in the Classroom Wihtin a PBIS Framework<sup>10</sup>



💇 Classroom PBIS is supporting and responding to all students' SEB needs with positive practices

<sup>4</sup> McIntosh, 2005; Lassen et al., 2006; Tobin & Sugai, 1999

- <sup>8</sup> https://www.pbis.org/topics/students-with-disability; https://www.pbis.org/resource/why-implement-tier-1-pbis-for-students-with-disabilities-what-does-research-say
- <sup>9</sup> https://www.pbis.org/resource/supporting-and-responding-to-behavior-evidence-based-classroom-strategies-for-teachers
- <sup>10</sup> https://www.pbis.org/resource/supporting-students-with-disabilities-in-the-classroom-within-a-pbis-framework



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/restraint-and-seclusion.pdf</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://civilrightsdata.ed.gov/assets/downloads/Suspensions\_and\_Expulsion\_Part2.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Algozzine & Algozzine, 2007; Brophy, 1988; Filter & Horner, 2009; Fisher, Berliner, Filby, Marliave, Cahen, & Dishaw, 1980; Horner et al., 2009; Lassen, Steele, & Sailor, 2006; Preciado, Horner, Scott, & Baker, 2009; Sanford, 2006; Simonsen et al., 2008

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Conley, Marchang, Caldarella, 2014; Donovan & Cross, 2002; Harrell, Leavell, van Tassel, & McKee, 2004; Landers, Courtad, & Ryndak, 2012; Nelsen, Benner, Lane, & Smith, 2004; Oliver & Reschley, 2007; Rathel, Drasgow, Brown & Marshall, 2014; Rathel, Drasgow, & Christle, 2008

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Lewis et al., 2004; Sutherland & Wehby, 2001

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> <u>https://www.pbis.org/pbis/why-implement-pbis; https://www.pbis.org/resource/is-school-wide-positive-behavior-support-an-evidence-based-practice</u>

# 3. What are critical classroom PBIS practices for all students?



#### Create effective classroom envonments<sup>11</sup>



👰 Prompting, engaging, and specifically praising are three key classroom PBIS practices

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# 4. What does intentional implementation of classroom PBIS practices look like?



👻 We intentionally intensify by planning, practicing, and "performing" (implementing)

## 5. How do we build habits of effective classroom PBIS practice?

• Check out this practice brief<sup>12</sup> and webinar<sup>13</sup> to learn more



💇 We build habits of effective classroom practice by implementing by understanding the "ABCs"

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> https://www.pbis.org/resource/creating-effective-classroom-environments-plan-template

<sup>12</sup> https://www.pbis.org/resource/habits-of-effective-classroom-practice

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> https://www.pbis.org/video/building-habits-of-effective-practice-webinar