2026 MTSS Summit Agenda

Thursday, Dec. 3, 11 AM–5 PM ET

Opening Keynote – 11 AM-12:15 PM ET	
Keynote: Leading with Laser Focus	**Dr. James Lane,** *CEO, Unlimited Instruction; Former Virginia Superintendent of Public Instruction*
Session Block 1 – 12:30-1:30 PM ET	
Panel Discussion: Leading Through Change	**Laura Bowes,** *Executive Director of School Improvement, Duval County Public Schools, FL* **Tanya Garvey,** *Director of MTSS, Carrollton-Farmers Branch ISD, TX* **James Arndt,** *Director of Partnerships and Coach, Center for High School Success, AZ* **Michelle Sheane,** *Asst. Superintendent, Student Services, Springs Charter Schools, CA*
When Growth Isn't Enough: Understanding the Gap Between Progress and Proficiency	**Essie Sutton, Ph.D.** *Director of Learning Science, Branching Minds*
MTSS Practices That Ensure English Language Learners are Seen and Supported	**Marianne Simon,** *Assistant Superintendent of Accountability and Assessment, Duval County Public Schools, FL* **Hope Teper,** *Principal, Englewood Elementary, Duval County Public Schools, FL*
Aligning Social-Emotional and Behavioral Supports into a Coherent Framework	**Ronda French,** *Assistant Director of Pupil Services, Medina City School District, OH* **Kristin Reffert,** *MTSS Coach, Medina City School District, OH*
Lunch & Learn – 1:45–2:15 PM ET	
The Next Chapter for MTSS and Special Education	**Maya Gat,** *Co-Founder and Chief Innovation Officer, Branching Minds* **Bridgette Leslie,** *CEO and Co-Founder, IEP&Me* **Coretta Martin,** *Co-Founder, IEP&Me*
Session Block 2 – 2:30-3:30 PM ET	
From Adoption to Impact: Aligning HQIM and MTSS for Stronger Instruction	**Hillary Rinaldi,** *Vice President, K-12 Strategy & Research, Whiteboard Advisors; Director, National Math Improvement Project* **Alyssa Murray Rocha,** *Chief Academic Officer, Houston Independent School District, TX* **LaMonica Williams,** *Vice President of Programs and Services, Teaching Matters*
District Leadership that Supports Confident School-Level Practice: A Case-Study with Cumberland County	**Jemn Hershberger,** *Coordinator of Strategic Initiatives for Instructional Programs, Cumberland County Schools, NC* **Dr. Ann-Marie Palmer,** *School Culture & Behavior Support Coordinator, Cumberland County Schools, NC* **Jennifer Jasinski,** *Principal, Gray's Creek Middle School, Cumberland County Schools, NC*
From Data to Action: How One District Built an Integrated Support System that Gets Results	**Theresa Donohue,** *Executive Director of MTSS, Data & Assessment, Plainview-Old Bethpage Central School District, NY* **Suzanne Gray,** *Principal, Old Bethpage Elementary, Plainview-Old Bethpage CSD, NY*
Panel Discussion: Building Connection and Belonging into Your MTSS	**David Levine,** *Director, School of Belonging* **Brandi Watts,** *Director, Teach Kindness* **Kate Pereira,** *Chief Strategy Officer, Classroom Champions*
Integrating Standardized Student Safety Screening and Case Management in an MTSS Framework	**Dawn Baumgartner,** *Coordinator of Social Services & Wellness, Phoenix Elementary School District #1, AZ* **Malissa Motylewski,** *LMSW Social Worker, Phoenix Elementary School District #1, AZ*
Closing Keynote – 3:45-5 PM ET	
The Catch: What a Connected System Looks Like, Inside and Out	**Dr. Dia Bryant,** *Deputy Mayor for Education, Jersey City, NJ*