

ALL ABOUT A.I.S.

Academic Intervention Services

Hudson City School District

Office of School Improvement

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All About A.I.S. **A Guide to** *Academic Intervention Services*

What is A.I.S.?

Academic Intervention Services help students who are struggling to achieve the New York State learning standards in English Language Arts and Mathematics in grades K-12, and social studies and science in grades 4-12. A.I.S. services include extra instructional time and other supports to help students achieve success in meeting the learning standards. There are two ways a student becomes eligible for A.I.S.:

- First, the school district determines that the student is at risk of not meeting state standards. Class achievement, standardized tests, and teacher recommendations are used.
- Second, if a student receives a score of a 1 or a 2 on the New York State Assessments in ELA, Math, Science, or Social Studies, AIS is mandated for a minimum of ten weeks.

Parental Notification and Involvement

Parents and guardians always receive written notification when a child is recommended to receive A.I.S. services. Written notification is also sent when services are no longer needed. Parents and guardians can also expect the following:

- An opportunity, at least once a semester, for a meeting with the student's regular classroom teacher, the A.I.S. teacher, and any other pertinent staff.
- Notification regarding the date of a meeting of the parents of all A.I.S. students to learn more about the program. Usually, this occurs on the same date as Open House.
- Quarterly progress reports during the school year. The first quarter report will be in the form of an outline of goals specific to the needs of the student. Such reports will provide information regarding student performance while receiving Academic Intervention Services.
- Information on ways to work with your child at home and monitor his/her progress.

What Should You Look For In An A.I.S. Program?

In an A.I.S. Program, look for the following:

- A.I.S. is based on a variety of pieces of information, including tests and student work, that identify specific student needs.
- The A.I.S. and classroom teachers know that each student must learn to meet the Common Core and New York State Learning Standards.
- Students who are receiving A.I.S. are grouped with students who have similar educational needs.
- Students are evaluated periodically to determine if A.I.S. should be changed or ended.

- A.I.S. includes multiple approaches to learning that strengthen a student's skills and strategies.
- Students learn organization and problem-solving strategies, including how to respond to questions requiring critical thinking skills.
- A.I.S. is scheduled in addition to the core program.
- A variety of materials and resources are used.

What Are Some Ways That I Can Help My Child To Be Successful?

- Encourage your child to read daily. Studies show that the more students read, or are read to, the more fluent they will become. Include non-fiction in the reading diet.
- Develop vocabulary – use the dictionary, or the computer, identify new words every week.
- Work on organizational skills-sorting materials by subject, setting up notebooks, following Multi-step directions, etc.
- Ask questions!

A.I.S. Services K - 8

Classroom

Children experiencing difficulty will receive extra support in the classroom, with at least two reading lessons a day with the classroom teacher.

Those needing additional support will receive one of the following with a reading teacher:

Leveled Literacy Intervention (LLI)

Intense small-group instruction developing progressive skills and strategies for reading. Children receive copies of the books read in school to keep and read at home. Parental support is needed to maximize effectiveness.

Reading Recovery Model (JLE)

Grade 1 intervention of 16-20 weeks. 1:1 instruction daily. Lessons are geared to the needs of the child. Parental support is required.

1:1 or Other Small Group Instruction

Sometimes children are not quite ready for a formal program and will receive support in a readiness group or work 1:1 or in a small group with a reading teacher on specific areas of weakness. These students usually move in to another program when they have progressed enough to handle the demands of one of the other programs.

Wilson Reading

Wilson Reading is a highly-structured remedial program that directly teaches the structure of the language to students who have been unable to learn with other teaching strategies, or who may require multisensory language instruction.

Other Supports

Students in the after school program may participate in one of many programs that provide extra help, usually with a mentor, a buddy reader, or in a small group.