



BRANCHING MINDS

IMPACT REPORT 2024

Introduction

MTSS begins with a simple idea — ensuring every learner receives the support they need to succeed. But turning that idea into a reality is anything but simple. At Branching Minds, we are proud to walk alongside our school partners every step of the way, from laying the groundwork to establishing a legacy of student success.

This report is both a reflection and a celebration of the progress we've achieved together. It tells the stories of districts that have transformed challenges into opportunities — from making better decisions with data to supporting teachers and improving student outcomes. These milestones represent the perseverance of educators like you and the incredible impact you have on your students' lives.

Thank you for allowing us to be part of this remarkable journey — your commitment fuels our work and inspires us daily. Together, we aren't just implementing MTSS; we're creating systems where both students and educators thrive — shaping brighter futures for all.

Yours in learning,

Maya Gat
CEO, Co-Founder
Branching Minds

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Our Reach in 2024

138,137
Teachers

35,900
MTSS Team Leaders

3,624
District Admins

411
Districts

3,000
Schools

1.7 M
Students



1,633,722

Intervention Plans Created



16,134,687

Documented Support Tasks



1,291,229

Family Communications Logged



152,917

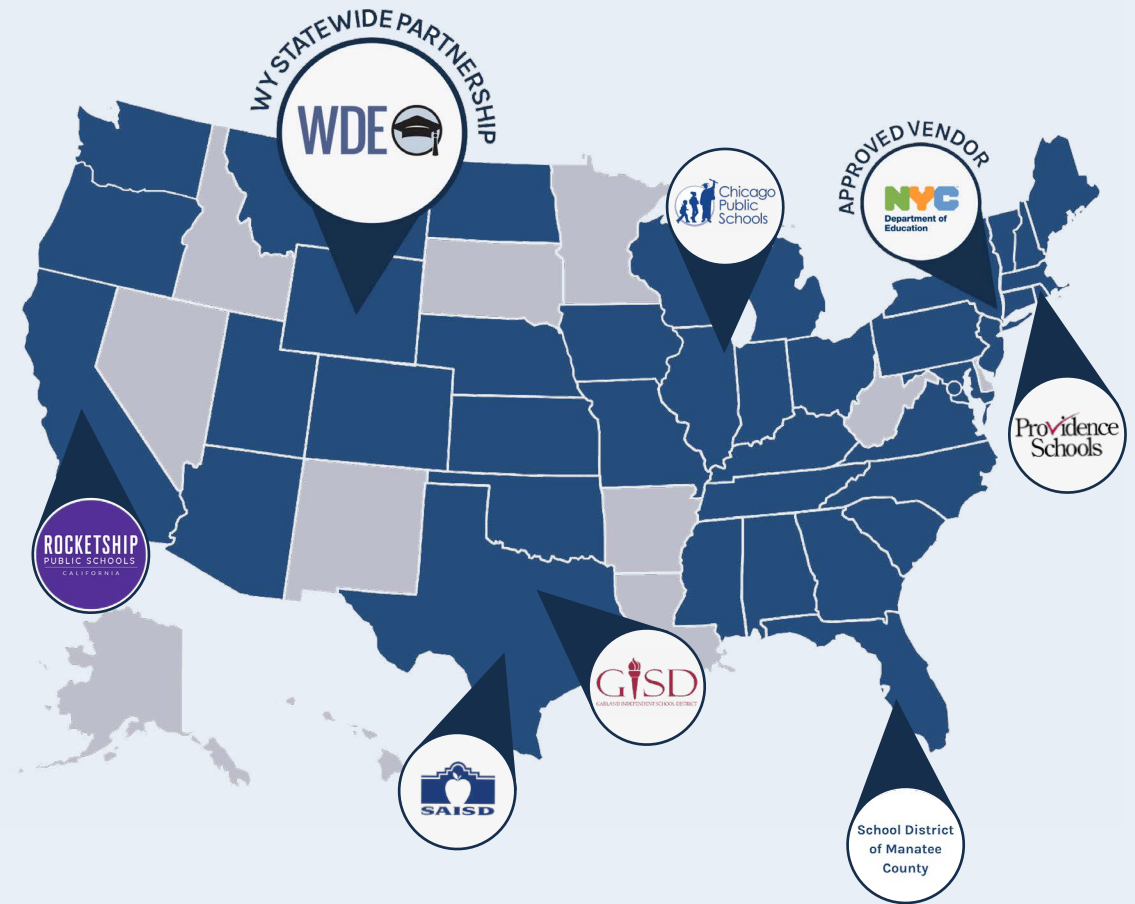
MTSS Meetings Logged



850,267

Behavior Incidents Logged

Notable Partnerships



Return on Investment: The Case for a Purpose-Built MTSS Management Solution

HOBSON & COMPANY

An independent research study by Hobson & Company, a leading research firm focused on Return On Investment (ROI), found that Branching Minds addresses common MTSS roadblocks while delivering a compelling ROI.

Measurable Time Savings



Allow educators to focus their time on what matters most through:

- ✓ Reduced documentation time
- ✓ Simplified support plan creation
- ✓ Centralized data and insights

50% Reduction
in time spent on
intervention planning

“The streamlined workflows, intuitive menus, and ability to select interventions and assign tasks simplifies the creation of support plans, ensuring educators can efficiently tailor strategies.”

Dr. Laura Blessing, Superintendent
Miamisburg City Schools, OH

Improved Student Outcomes



Increase student achievement through:

- ✓ Early identification of student needs
- ✓ More effective interventions
- ✓ Standardized processes to reduce disproportionality

76% of Districts
report more students meeting
and exceeding academic goals

“We went from 49% to 73% meeting state standards ('24 vs '19). 80% of K-3 students are hitting benchmarks and 90% of Kindergartners. The district no longer has disproportionality or a poor rating.”

Angie Plugge, Director of Learning
Waverly School District, NE

Higher Teacher Satisfaction



Teachers with Branching Minds are less stressed and feel confident in their roles with:

- ✓ MTSS practices, processes, and tools
- ✓ Aligned documentation
- ✓ Coordinated communication

“Branching Minds is the communication tool we were missing for teachers and staff to communicate effortlessly about students with fidelity.”

Dr. Christine Baldwin, Director of Curriculum
Indian Springs School District, IL

Large Cost Savings



426% ROI

A representative school district with 12,000 students enrolled across 12 schools could pay back the cost of Branching Minds in 3.4 months and generate an Return on Investment up to 426% in three years.

Success at Every Stage of Implementation

Implementing a Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) is rarely straightforward. Much like nurturing student growth, it begins with planting seeds and fostering development year after year. At every stage of this journey, there are opportunities to measure progress and celebrate success. **Branching Minds is honored to support districts in every phase of MTSS implementation.**

Initial MTSS Implementation with Branching Minds



In the initial phase of MTSS implementation, it's important to balance urgency and patience. Our district partners set up for success by:

- Forming district and campus teams to lead the process.
- Setting clear goals with step-by-step actions
- Identifying stakeholders, providing professional learning and coaching
- Ensuring the Branching Minds platform is set up correctly and easy to access from the first log-in

This intentional work ensures a smooth, sustainable rollout of the MTSS framework.

MTSS Growth and Progress with Branching Minds



In the growth stage of MTSS, districts expand and improve their implementation, supporting more students with tailored interventions and increasing teacher use of best practices.

Key goals include:

- Maintaining fidelity of practice,
- Monitoring progress and providing support to educators
- Improving equity and student achievement as MTSS becomes routine.

Establishing an MTSS Legacy



The legacy stage of MTSS showcases its long-term impact through improved student outcomes and school culture. With fewer special education referrals and stronger inclusion, MTSS becomes a cultural norm that fosters collaboration and resilience, especially through challenges and leadership changes.

Initial MTSS Implementation with Branching Minds





Collaboration Across Alternative Schools for Student Success in Beaumont ISD, TX

Beaumont ISD, serving over 19,000 students across 20 schools, has unified its MTSS practices using Branching Minds. The district previously struggled with scattered data and limited actionable insights. Now, the platform has streamlined collaboration and improved support for students, particularly in alternative settings. Intervention plans and strategies developed on alternative campuses now follow students back to their home campuses, ensuring continuity. This unified approach has enhanced communication and created a stronger framework for addressing student needs, showing progress in their MTSS efforts.

“

Bringing in Branching Minds, experts in the field, to help us build that MTSS framework properly made a huge difference. It was like a sigh of relief to have that kind of support behind us.”

Emma McBride, Multi-Tiered Systems Specialist, Beaumont ISD, TX

Duneland School Corporation, IN: Enhancing Communication and Consistency for Student Interventions

Duneland School Corporation partnered with Branching Minds to unify data collection and improve communication across their schools, aligning MTSS practices. Despite initial resistance from staff, leaders emphasized the platform's ability to save time by streamlining data analysis and collaboration. **Within a year, the district improved responsiveness to student needs, using tier-level reports to target interventions and enhance behavior tracking.** Duneland leaders are now leveraging the platform to support academic, social, emotional, and behavioral growth while showcasing success to parents and the community.

“

In the last year we've had a huge amount of growth as far as being able to be more responsive to students needs. Every decision that we make, we can make because of the data that Branching Minds helps us collect and analyze.”

Jenn Bogner, Duneland Director of Exceptional Learning

Technical and Data Implementation

The Data Implementation Specialists at Branching Minds combine tech expertise with empathy to support districts during onboarding. Many are former educators who know the importance of having accurate data for a strong start with the MTSS platform. They provide dedicated support for tasks like rostering, assessments, and data setup, using tools like the Data Sharing Guide to simplify technical steps. With weekly check-ins and a commitment to troubleshooting, this team ensures a smooth and successful implementation process.



“ Erin was very interested in helping solve data issues as they arose. She was very knowledgeable and hands-on with our data integration. Although complex and with many moving parts, this was the best implementation process I’ve experienced.”

Burke Brown, Palmyra District OR-1 Public Schools, NE

“ The process was very helpful, the staff was incredible and they helped us set up what we needed and understand why.”

Stephen Prange, Teton County SD 1, WY

“ The vast amount of resources that provide step by step directions for every process, along with weekly check-in meetings with Erin Meek for additional guidance and accountability, set us up for success with implementation.”

Amanda Taxis, Somonauk Community Unit School District 432, IL

Award Winning Customer Support

Quality support isn’t just about solving problems—it’s about building trust and lasting relationships. Through our in-app chat, educators connect with a live person in under a minute. Issues are quickly escalated to the right team for a full resolution. Our goal is to exceed expectations with every interaction.



CODiE 2024 Leadership Award for Best Customer Experience



“ Megan was extremely knowledgeable in navigating the platform and assisting me with my issue. She helped me resolve my issue with guided step-by-step instructions. She even went as providing screenshots/pictures of what I should be seeing on my end. Megan went above and beyond.”

A user from NYC District 21

“ I can’t express how happy I was to reach out after the summer break and find Emily at the end of our chat!! She simplified my 1st year as a school interventionist battling 1000 with her on point answers to all of my questions throughout the year. Looking forward to our continued chats!”

A user from CPS

“ We appreciate the quick response time and the help was accompanied by images of screenshots of where we could find the information we were looking for. This was a also a test of the chat system for this new program and you passed with flying colors. :)”

A user from Dundy County Stratton Public School District

MTSS Growth and Progress with Branching Minds





Roanoke Rapids Graded School District, NC: Literacy Gains Through Strategic MTSS Implementation



AT A GLANCE

- District Name: Roanoke Rapids Graded School District
- District Location: Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina
- Description and Size: Small, urban district
- Total Number of Students: ~2,800
- Schools: 5
- Demographics: Black or African American (50%), White (42%), Hispanic/Latino (6%)

When Krissy Martin joined as MTSS Coordinator in 2022, she identified inefficiencies in data tracking and inconsistent tiering practices across the district. By adopting Branching Minds, the district streamlined its processes, ensuring data was centralized and easily accessible, leading to more informed, equitable, and data-driven decision-making for student interventions. This transformation has been especially impactful in literacy, with the district outpacing the state in growth in K-3 literacy according to DIBELS-8 data.



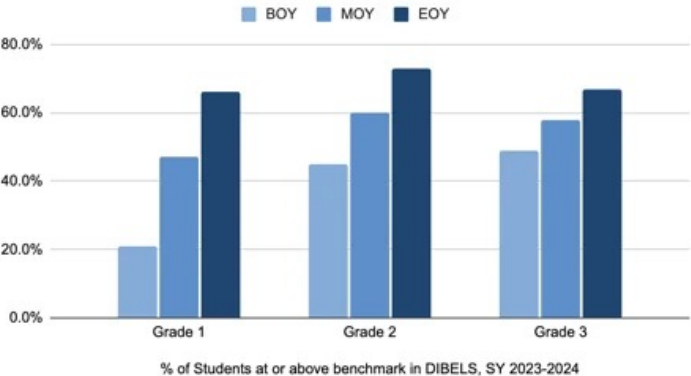
Branching Minds fostered better communication and collaboration across grade levels, teams, and between schools and the central office by providing a shared view of student data, making the entire district more aligned in supporting student success.”

Dr. Julie Thompson, Superintendent

RRGSD’s successes are a result of improved resource allocation, timely interventions, and a collaborative approach among educators. Key accomplishments include:

- 100% creation and monitoring of individual reading plans** for the “Read to Achieve” program.
- Early interventions provided within the first ten days of school based** on existing data.
- A consistent and objective tiering system** for interventions.
- Improved core classroom instruction**, reducing the number of students needing targeted or intensive interventions

Roanoke Rapids, DIBELS Growth, SY 2023-24





Driving Student Success with Data-Focused MTSS in Lincoln County Schools, WY



AT A GLANCE

- District Name: Lincoln County Schools
- District Location: Stanford, Wyoming
- Locale Type and Size: Rural, medium-sized district
- Total Number of Students: ~3,800
- Schools: 6
- Demographics: Predominantly White (90%), Hispanic/Latino (7%), Black or African American (2%)

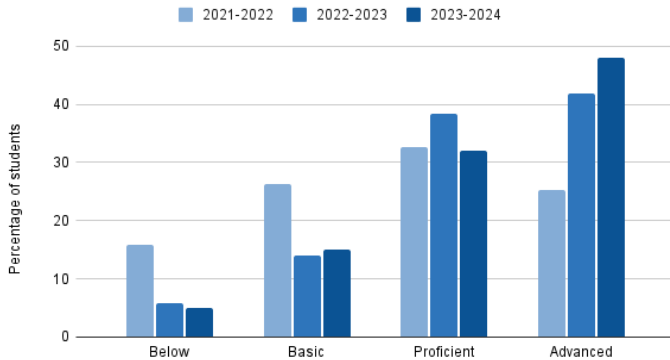
Thayne Elementary in Wyoming improved its MTSS processes by implementing Branching Minds, replacing inconsistent methods with a unified platform for tracking student progress. Teachers now hold efficient, data-driven meetings and adjust intervention plans effectively. This shift has resulted in measurable gains in ELA and math proficiency, inspiring other schools in the district to adopt similar practices.



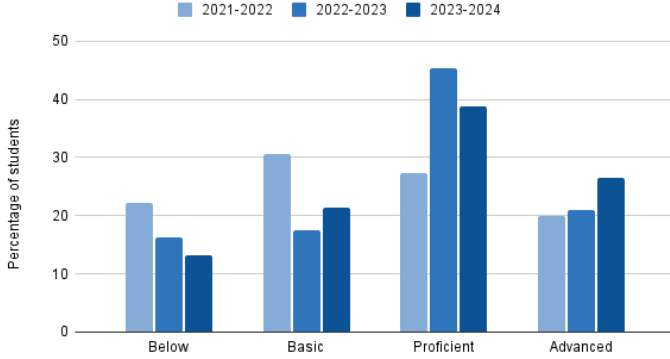
Our scores have really made a significant jump since we've used Branching Minds. We had so much success in both our ELA and math and our proficiency. We were definitely more focused and data-driven last year than we ever have been.

Jodee Nelson, Title 1 Coordinator and K-3 Reading Specialist

Thayne Elementary WY-TOPP Math Data Grade 3



Thayne Elementary WY-TOPP Reading Data Grade 3



[READ MORE ABOUT THEIR SUCCESS](#)

Closing Achievement Gaps with MTSS in New Hampshire

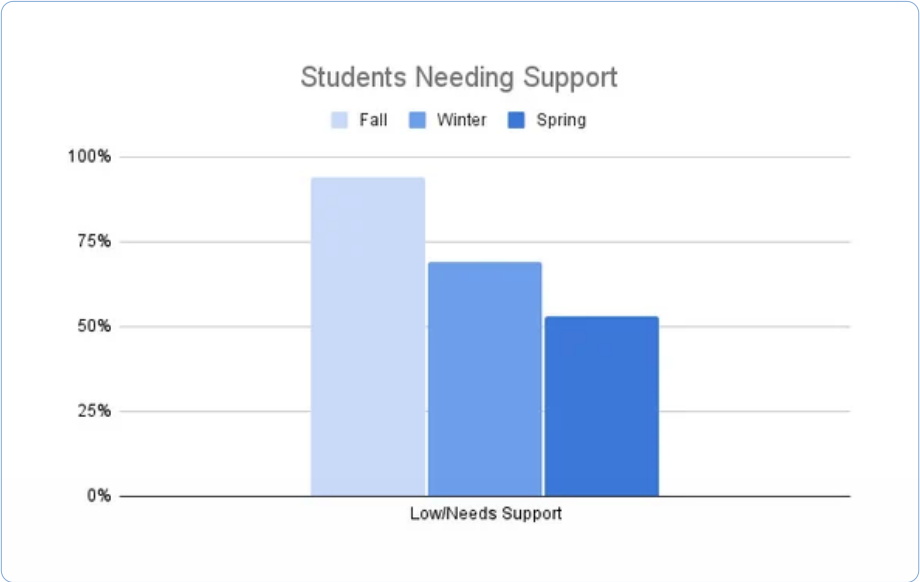


Plainfield Elementary School in New Hampshire struggled with its Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) process due to challenges in managing and analyzing data. With a small staff and limited resources, teachers spent too much time gathering data from multiple sources, leaving little time to plan or evaluate interventions.

Christine Downing, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, noted that more time was spent analyzing data than using it to support students. **Since adopting Branching Minds, Plainfield has streamlined its MTSS process, leading to more efficient and productive meetings.** Teachers now have quick access to comprehensive data, enabling clear and actionable student support plans. Key achievements include:

- **More efficient meetings** with timely action steps
- **Significant second-grade student growth** in NWEA results.
- **Improved focus on interventions**, with teachers actively engaged and seeing positive outcomes.

“
 As a result of Branching Minds, we can really see the growth in the students. Our second grade had some tremendous growth recently in our NWEA from fall, and it's because we've been very diligent about the intervention plans we've been putting forth, and the teachers have been a vital part of that conversation. We're watching students gain a year, a year and a half, close a gap”
 Christine Downing, Director of Curriculum and Instruction



We Bring MTSS to Life

Our Professional Services team partners with districts to provide tailored professional learning across the many roles involved in supporting students, from teachers to district administrators, to principals and paraprofessionals. Successful MTSS implementation takes the right mindset and skills. Our mission is to help districts build a sustainable network of in-house MTSS expertise to guide the work, even amidst leadership changes and teacher turn-over.

In 2024

347 UNIQUE DISTRICTS
Worked with Professional Services

91%
Customer Satisfaction Rate

11
Different Types of Session Offerings

- **Expanded Consultant Expertise:** We've increased the number of consultants with MBE (Minority Business Enterprise) or WOSB (Women-Owned Small Business) credentials.
- **MTSS Learning Hub:** We've created an extensive catalog of professional development offerings and asynchronous courses was created to meet the specific needs of each partner.



“

We all just love our consultant! Branching Minds itself is amazing and provides well-thought-out PD materials. Plus, SOOOO many resources for continued learning!”

“

It's always second to none. We've been so impressed with the trainers!”

“

Things were great and [our consultant] was very flexible and patient with us.”

“

In response to the training that our consultant just ran for our administrators. Let me start by saying she did an excellent job. It was exactly what we needed. Immediately following that meeting our High School principal emailed me asking me to talk to her High School Leadership Team about Branching Minds (and MTSS). I thought that would never happen so that is a huge victory.”

MTSS As a Movement

We think of MTSS as a movement, a way of doing school that is inspiring and equipping educators to make an impact across the country and across the world. And we are leading that movement.

Our experienced educators, researchers, and practitioners provide abundant MTSS learning opportunities of the highest quality, including freely available webinars, expertly written guides and blogs, our inspiring podcast, our first MTSS eBook series, our free summer mini-summit, and our flagship event, the annual MTSS Virtual Summit.

MTSS Implementation eBook Series



MTSS Thought Leadership

 **1,571**
REGISTRANTS **2024 MTSS Virtual Summit: MTSS Fidelity with Intention**

 **1,560**
REGISTRANTS **Summer Mini-Summit: MTSS Behavior Essentials**

 **47/50**
STATES

 **12**
COUNTRIES



The Branching Minds MTSS Podcast shines a light on phenomenal educators and those on a mission to transform our schools and the lives of students.

 **900+**
SUBSCRIBERS

 **27,999**
DOWNLOADS ...
AND COUNTING!

Top Expert Voices We Featured

We bring MTSS insights from the best and brightest in education! Here are just a few stars that participated in our MTSS events and podcast this year.



Angela Watson
Truth for Teachers Author and Educational Speaker



R. Keeth Matheny “Coach Rudy”
National award-winning teacher, author, and teacher, SEL Launchpad



Karen Hamilton
Educational Consultant and former district leader



Hiral Vekaria
Director of Leadership Development at the National Association of School Psychologists



Dr. Avis Williams
New Orleans School District Superintendent



Dr. Nate Von der Embse
Professor of school psychology at the University of South Florida

Establishing an MTSS Legacy with Branching Minds

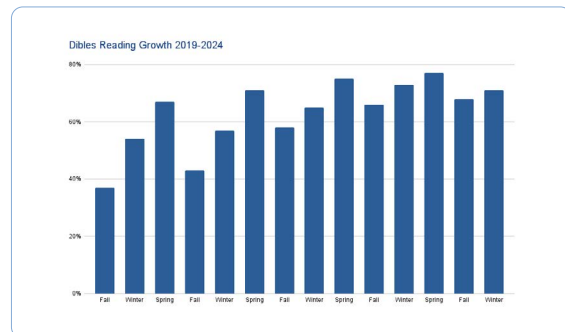


Transformative Reading Growth in Waverly, NE



AT A GLANCE

- District Name: Waverly School District
- District Location: Nebraska
- Locale Type and Size: Rural, medium-sized district
- Total Number of Students: 2,138
- Demographics: White (94.8%), Hispanic (2.2%), Asian or Pacific Islander (0.4%), Black (0.8%)



*I'm excited about our student outcomes and Branching Minds is part of it. We went from 49% to 73% meeting state standards ('24 vs '19). 80% of K-3 students are hitting benchmarks and 90% of Kindergartners. **The district no longer has disproportionality or a poor rating.***

Angela Plugge, Director of Curriculum and Assessment, Waverly NE

Waverly School District has achieved remarkable success in implementing MTSS, with student outcomes showing significant growth. Angie Plugge, Director of Curriculum and Assessment, credited Branching Minds as a vital component in the last 5 years.

- Through defined roles, focused progress monitoring, and evidence-based interventions, the district streamlined their process and ensured fidelity in implementation.
- Goals are set for an entire semester, aligned to benchmark norms, which teachers trust due to their clarity and consistency.
- Collaborative practices like monthly check-ins and instructional rounds foster continuous improvement.

These strategic steps have transformed learning experiences, driving equity and exceptional student achievement.



Empowering ELL Students Through Target Support in Mineola School District, NY

Mineola School District in New York has been using Branching Minds for 9 years. Recently they tackled the challenges faced by their growing English Language Learner (ELL) population by using the Branching Minds platform.

The district utilized tailored intervention plans and progress monitoring tools to address language acquisition barriers while supporting academic growth. Teachers noted that the platform's library of supports made it easier to identify evidence-based strategies for ELL students. **Over the course of the year, the district observed an increase in ELL students achieving grade-level benchmarks in reading and math.**



The tiering system from the Universal Screeners has been invaluable. We are able to just in a click of a button have an entire tiered system of the kids that we need to be looking at on a tiered level. It's taking the cognitive load off of us to do the data work. Now we can do the problem-solving and the real stuff that we need to do to intervene.

Jenn Maichin, High School Assistant Principal, Mineola

We Do a Lot Because We Care a Lot

Our customer success team offers skillful, empathetic partnership with districts as they implement MTSS and our platform.

- **Collaborative Relationships:** We prioritize strong partnerships with district leaders and educators from the start.
- **Understanding District Needs:** Through regular checkups and thoughtful, data-focused conversations, we gain insight into each district’s practices, resources, and challenges.
- **Goal Alignment:** We align our support with the district’s vision for student success, including professional services planning.

Pathfinders

Among our district partners, there are champions leading the way. We invite these MTSS expert practitioners to join the Branching Minds Pathfinders. They can connect with other leaders and expand their influence. This group of 37 change-makers meets regularly to share MTSS insights and challenges, inform Branching Minds content and platform development.

8 MTSS Collective Events



Long Island MTSS Collective event hosted by Plainview Old Bethpage. Superintendent O’Meara and other district leaders presented on their MTSS journey developing a handbook with Branching Minds and adopting the platform district-wide.

“What sets Branching Minds apart from every other vendor is the amazing customer service from the CSM team and from the support team. Whenever I have a question, everyone is quick to respond and answer, and nothing I ask ever goes unanswered or unsolved. The other great thing is they are always working on making the product better.”

Cassie Holewinski, Buckeye Valley Local Schools, OH

“It’s not just a platform. It’s a whole team of professionals and educators, who understand education, who will help you create an MTSS that works. It’s about best practice and all the knowledge you gain from working with them. It helps you in every facet of the implementation, not just where to store your data.”

Laurie Gregory, Director of Educational Services, Eden Central School District, NY

“Branching Minds support team has been so helpful. I would call them or email them, and they’d almost always get back to me immediately or within that day. They were always so patient, helping me. They just made it so smooth. They made me feel like there wasn’t any dumb question. They also had those check-in meetings throughout the year.”

Jodee Nelson, Lincoln County, WY



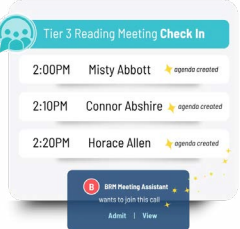
MTSS Collective event with some of our Ohio partners hosted by Buckeye Valley Local Schools. Chief of Academic Affairs, Brian Orrenmaa, shared how their district has implemented Branching Minds in the district, specifically in reading with the creation of Reading Improvement Monitoring Plan (RIMP).

New Product Features

From improved security to tools that simplify teaching workflows, 2024 platform updates reflect our commitment to providing what our customers are asking for and what they deserve.

We're proud to introduce the **Branching Minds AI-Powered Meeting Assistant**, thoughtful AI integration that transforms the chaos of MTSS meeting prep into a streamlined process:

- Creates a meeting agenda - automatically
- Captures real-time notes
- Organizes action steps
- Cuts prep time to minutes—lightening educators' workloads
- Ensures meetings are productive, collaborative, and focused on student success



Meeting prep time reduced by 80% or more!
 The Meeting Assistant saves over 40 minutes of prep time on average per participant – with most meeting prep taking 15 minutes or less.



Meeting Assistant is FERPA compliant with a SOC Type 2 Certification – and the data generated via the Meeting Assistant is contained in the Branching Minds platform and does not train outside central LLMs

The Branching Mind's Meeting Assistant was built in compliance with emerging yet sophisticated district AI-specific policies. It meets the need for objective language in its agenda and note taking capabilities even when conversations and insights are subjective and sensitive.

“
 The streamlined workflows, intuitive menus, and ability to select interventions and assign tasks simplifies the creation of support plans, ensuring educators can efficiently tailor strategies.”
 Dr. Laura Blessing, Superintendent, Miamisburg City Schools, OH

Other Significant Features Launched:

Custom Report Builder

Behavior Incident Report

Early Warning System



CODiE Award for Best Personalized Learning Solution

Partnership Highlights

MTSS works because it brings together so many components of K-12 education. From screening to intervention, academics to behavior, student data to staff practice, Branching Minds partners with many of the leading providers of evidence-based learning supports and assessments used across the nation.

Partner Integrations



State Partnerships



Approved Vendor



New Interventions added to our Library this year

Substance misuse and vaping:

CATCH My Breath
smokeSCREEN
Operation Prevention
Botvin LifeSkills Programs
(Elementary, Middle School, and High School)

Ohio approved reading interventions:

95 Phonemic Awareness Suite
StartUp, BuildUp, SpiralUp Phonics
Connections: OGi3D
Focused Phonics

Colorado READ Act:

McGraw Hill - Corrective Reading
PRISM Reading Program
The Writing Road to Reading
SPELL-Links

English Learner supports:

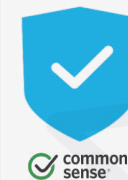
Istation Lectura
Littera
The Book and Box of Fact Strategies: Addition and Subtraction
The Book and Box of Fact Strategies: Multiplication and Division

Awards and Certifications

Branching Minds is making an impact across the country. We are proud to have earned numerous awards over the past year recognizing our work to support educators with user-friendly, data-secure, learning-science-driven MTSS software and support.




Best Personalized Learning Solution
Best Customer Experience in EdTech





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