North Allegheny School District
Positive Behavior Support Specialists

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Positive Behavior Support Specialist Team

Support the Special Education Staff and Students

- Consult with Staff and Administration
- Coach
- Analyze
- Attend meetings
- Help write documents
- Team Member Supports (bus, lunch, de-escalations)
- “Data knight”
PBSS
Deployed by direct requests and/or building needs

Common requests and focus points:

- FBA/PBSP
- Classroom Management
- Targeted Student Interventions
- Trainings for parents, paras, and staff
- Research for specific interventions and best practices
- Internal Coach for PaTTAN Autism Initiative ABA supports classrooms
- Dissemination of data and science
- Supervision for ABA certifications
PBSS

4 Pillars:

Intervention
Prevention
Skill Acquisition
Performance Management
Latham’s Tools for Positive Behavior Change

- Staying Close
- Giving Positive Consequences
- Ignore Junk Behavior
- Ignoring the junk behavior of one person and giving positive consequences for the appropriate behavior of another person.
- Stop - Redirect - Give Positive Consequences
- Setting Expectations
- Using a Contract
- Time-Out
- ABCs of Behavior
- Consulting Skills of Staff
PaTTAN Autism Initiative- Applied Behavior Analysis Supports

North Allegheny School District
Information from PaTTAN Autism Initiative ABA Supports Family Handbook
1 in 59 Diagnosed with ASD

Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASDs) are a group of complex neurological developmental disabilities characterized by problems with communication, social interaction, and patterns of interest and behavior.

Symptoms of autism may range from mild to severe. ASDs affect all social classes, races, and ethnic groups. Autism spectrum disorders affect about 1 in 59 children. But, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, autism is almost five times more common among boys at a rate of 26.6 in 1,000, than among girls, where the rate is 6.6 in 1,000.

The PaTTAN Autism Initiative is committed to helping educators and parents meet the educational needs of children and young adults with ASDs.
Purpose and Practice

The purpose of the PaTTAN Autism Initiative is to enhance learning and communication to improve the lives of children who live with autism and their families through implementation of evidence-based practices.

Supports training, consultation and on site guided practice of evidence-based interventions.
Number of participating classroom sites across Pennsylvania

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Objectives of the PaTTAN Initiative

- Establish competencies in staff
- Provide training, to include on site guided practice
- To coach the development and implementation of focused instructional goals
- Train and guide staff on using effective instruction
- Teach staff to utilize assessment
- Teach staff to utilize other assessments
- Train and guide staff on effective management of problem behavior
- Identify internal coaches from the school district
- Evaluate the success of the PaTTAN Autism Initiative
- Evaluate professional and parent satisfaction
How does PaTTAN help NA implement Behavior Analysis and Verbal Behavior in these classrooms?

- Pairing with reinforcement - they see the success and progress
- Use of Principles of ABA and evidence-based practices
- Assessment and continued progress monitoring
- Guided Practice
- Routine Consults (remotely and on site)
- Site Reviews
- Resource Sharing
- Access to their network of supports
Videos to View, Courtesy of PaTTAN

Overview of PaTTAN Autism Initiative ABA Supports & Outcomes

Harrisburg classroom implementation
What is ABA?

- ABA stands for Applied Behavior Analysis
- The science of studying behavior and applying data supported techniques to increasing or decreasing behaviors that are meaningful to the individual and their social environment
- Evidence-based and systematic in practice
Basic Principles of ABA

- Analyzes socially significant behavior in need of improvement.
- Behavior is defined in objective and measurable terms.
- Examines the functional relationship between behavior (what a person does) and its controlling variables (what happens in the environment).
- Analyzes behavior through a 3 term contingency
  - What happens before the behavior (Antecedent)
  - What does the behavior look like (Behavior)
  - What happens after the behavior (Consequence)
What is Verbal Behavior?

- Verbal behavior is behavior that is mediated by the behavior of another person.
- It focuses attention on the functional analysis of language.
- Can include speaking, listening, using sign language, writing, using picture exchange systems and various augmentative communication devices.
Verbal Operants- ways of classifying what is said by why is it said.

**Mand** = request (you say it because you want it)

**Tact** = label (you say it because you see, hear, smell, taste or feel something)

**Intraverbal** = conversation, answering a question, responding when someone else talks (you say it because someone else asked you a question or made a comment)
Continued...

**Echoic** = repeating what someone else says (you say it because someone else said it)

**Imitation** = repeating someone else’s motor movement (you move because someone else moved the same way)

**Listener Responding/Receptive** = following directions (you do what someone else asks you to do)
What is a cookie?

**Mand** when you want the cookie.

**Tact** when you see, smell or taste the cookie.

**Listener Responding** (Receptive) when you respond to someone giving you an instruction about a cookie.

**Motor Imitation** when you make the sign for cookie because someone else signed cookie.

**Intraverbal** when someone asks a question or makes a comment about a cookie.

**Echoic** when you hear cookie.
What’s Next after VB-MAPP?

Great question!

Examples: Assessment of Functional Living Skills (AFLS), Skillstreaming, Essentials for Living, Practical Assessment Exploration System (PAES) Lab, mock apartment, school store, Community Based Instruction (CBI), Travel Training, coffee cart, and much much more!

Task chains once foundational skills are established, maintained, and generalized

Independence and future work skills
PaTTAN Autism Initiative Website Link:

Link to PaTTAN Autism Initiative Information
QUESTIONS and CONVERSATION

THANK YOU!
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