D97 Single Subject and Whole Grade Acceleration

Meet our Presenters:

- **Patrick Robinson**, Interim Superintendent
- **Emilie Creehan**, Director of Teaching of Learning

Agenda

- Single Subject and Whole Grade Acceleration
- Acceleration Vs. Access to Algebra
- TimeLine and the Process
- Communication
- Questions

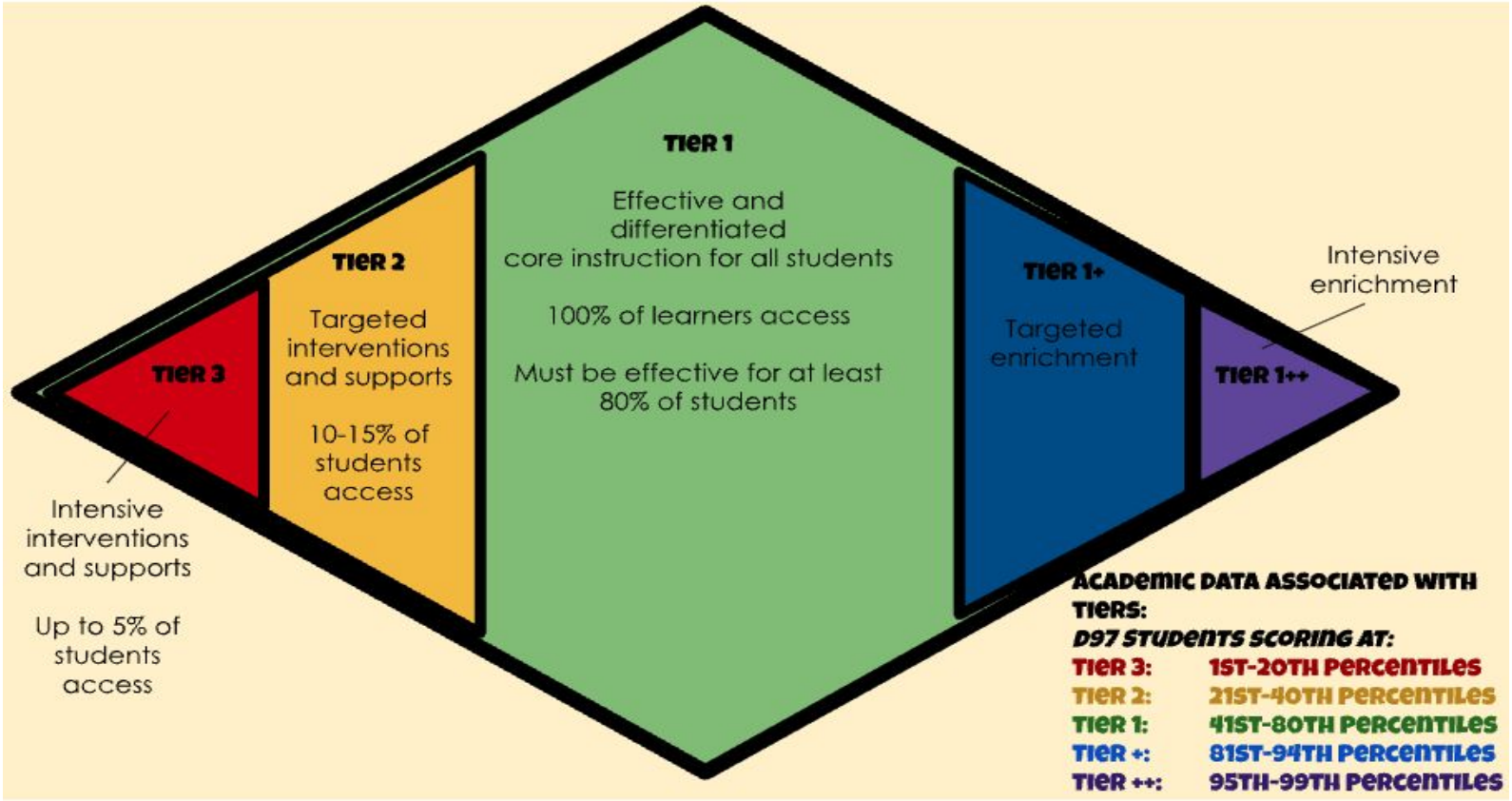
What is the Accelerated Placement Act?

The Accelerated Placement Act expands services to ALL students, not only those identified as gifted and talented by local policy, who demonstrate high ability and who may benefit from accelerated placement. It requires the development of local policy to identify such students through a fair and equitable decision making and multiple measure assessment process.

Accelerated placement refers to the placement of a student in an academically appropriate instructional setting with appropriate level curriculum that may include, but is not limited to:

- **a child entering kindergarten or first grade early,**
- **a child accelerating in a single subject, and**
- **a child accelerating through grades.**

D97 MTSS DIAMOND



Best Practices of Acceleration

* ISBE: Developing Academic Acceleration Policies | November 2018

- Access to referral for consideration of acceleration is open to all students
- All student populations are served
- Student evaluation is fair, objective, and systematic
- Parents and guardians are allowed open communication about policy and procedures
- The policy specifies a comprehensive data-informed student evaluation plan
- The community has ready access to the policy documents and procedure guidelines

Single Subject Acceleration

is the practice of assigning a student to a higher subject level than is typical given the student's age, for the purpose of providing access to appropriately challenging learning opportunities in one subject area. This will be accomplished by moving the student to a higher level class for instruction.

Students can go through the process multiple times.

Whole Grade Acceleration

is the practice of assigning a student to a higher grade level than is typical, given the student's age, for the purpose of providing access to appropriately challenging learning opportunities in **all** subject areas.

Students can go through the process multiple times.

Acceleration VS. Access to Algebra

State Mandated Acceleration

What: To accelerate past your age appropriate grade level in any subject per 2019 IL Accelerated Placement Act

Who: All students district wide are eligible to participate in this process

How: Students, teachers, or families can apply for acceleration during the spring window (March 2, 2026 - April 24, 2026)

Access to Algebra

What: To increase access for students not currently on track for Algebra (Integrated Math 1) by 8th grade

Who: Students in 5-7 grade who are not already single subject accelerated in math

How: Students can access this program 2 ways

1. **Bridge Course:** students participate in a trimester 2 & 3 course and pass the end of course exam with 80% or higher
2. **Star:** Students who meet the grade level Scaled Score criteria

Acceleration Process

1. Family, teacher, and/or student attend the **Acceleration Family Night** or reach out to the school to learn about D97's acceleration process.

2. Families, staff members, or any other referrer fills out the school specific application form that can be found on the districts website: Departments → Core Instruction → Academic Acceleration → Single Subject Acceleration or Whole Grade Acceleration → Application for Single Subject or Whole Grade Acceleration

3. Principal or MTSS Lead emails the MTSS Team members (teacher, Enrichment Specialists and/or other support staff), to review the application and begin section one of the Acceleration Rubric.
    a. Star Scores (Fall and Winter)
    b. Student Voice Survey
    c. Report Card Standards/Grade

Acceleration Process

4. The MTSS Team will then send the family a letter stating if the student data qualifies them to move on to section two.

5. If data supports moving forward, the family will be sent times and dates for the End of the Year (EOY) Standards Based Placement Test that all students will take. Families will sign up for a Saturday testing time.
    a. End of the Year Standards Bases Placement Test
    b. IAR (if applicable)
    c. 2 teacher surveys

6. Once all data is collected MTSS team will complete the rubric and notify families of the outcome. Students must earn 80% of the points on the rubric to qualify.

Timeline

End of January:	Updated Website and Rubrics
February 18:	Family Information Sessions
March 2:	Acceleration window opens
April 11 & 25, and May 9:	End of Year standards-based testing sessions
April 24:	Acceleration window closes
March - June:	MTSS Team assesses students and works with families
June 2:	Last day to notify families of acceleration outcome

Collaboration and Communication Process

The district has established a collaborative process for evaluation.

- Our process ensures that families are a part of the team, as well as students when appropriate.
- Teachers, families, students or administrators can request that a student take part in single-subject or whole grade-level acceleration. (Families do need to give final consent for students to participate.)
- District 97 staff and school administrators are responsible for evaluating applications and communicating with families throughout the process.
- Applications are only accepted between **March 2 and April 24** for this school year.
- All exceptionalities are considered

Thank you!