



# Decatur County Schools

100 West Street  
Bainbridge, Georgia 39817  
(229) 248-2802 • Fax (229) 248-2252

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Dear Curriculum Colleagues:

I am writing this letter to share information about a product that we are using in the Decatur County School System which is proving to be successful in identifying and monitoring students having academic problems, as well as in developing and monitoring academic intervention plans. If your system is like ours, you may have students who slip through the cracks; trouble communicating clearly and efficiently with all stakeholders in a school about students who are failing or struggling; and teachers who, due to the many demands of the job, use only a short list of strategies/accommodations to differentiate and remediate weaknesses.

Perhaps you have counselors and leadership staff who need to routinely access information and check the progress of a child, but no easy tool to use to do so. Or you may be grappling with disproportionality, pyramids of intervention, or trying to make AYP. As our GPS training has reiterated, our business is determining what students should know and be able to do, how we know if they are, and what we can do when they don't learn. So, what can we do?

If you are experiencing problems similar to those mentioned above, you may find A3 software a possible solution. In addition to information on grades, test history, and the typical items that can be accessed via your student information system, A3 has the ability to provide leveled access for individuals within a school or system. By customizing your criteria you can know immediately who needs lower or higher levels of intervention. Teachers select strategies to implement from among a menu of options, note the success of each intervention, automatically email others who need to stay informed, and can print out reports for parents. While the majority of students needing interventions (academic or behavioral) can be assisted with lower level strategies, A3 also provides the ability to monitor the more challenging ones who need to move upwards in the pyramid. Should a student need to continue through the SST process, into psychological testing, or be found eligible for services, A3 provides a seamless transition.

Imagine having electronic data available in your upper grades of all the interventions and their results from the lower grades. Teachers, counselors and administrators can use the data from A3 to make better decisions for each student. Thank you for allowing me to share one of our best practices with you.

Sincerely I remain,

Yours for better education,

Suzi Bonifay, Asst. Superintendent