What is PBIS?

**Positive Behavior Interventions (or Instructions) and Supports**

PBIS is both a *person centered* and *research based* approach to behavior that focuses on teaching the behaviors we want to see—in school, at home and in the community.

PBIS is the recommended form of intervention for responding to challenging behavior of students with disabilities (IDEA). This approach can also help create a positive school culture when practiced school-wide.

When implemented school-wide, school staff work together to teach “universal” social and emotional skills to all students. These universal skills are based on clear behavioral rules and expectations. This is considered *primary prevention*.

PBIS schools use *secondary prevention* and intervention to support the 5-15% of students who are not responding well to the universal practices.

For the few students (1-5%) who experience on-going and intense complex behaviors, PBIS schools use tertiary practices that involve individual interventions and instructions to help those students be more successful. Typically, tertiary practices come into play with students who experience disabilities and receive special education. The instructional practices and support plans become part of the individualized education program (IEP).