

Why Get Schooled on Concussions?

- Because students will still get concussions, even in this time of COVID-19
- Because educators will still need to help students recover from their concussion, even when educators are stretched to the max with COVID-19 plans
- Because providing immediate, flexible and relevant academic support for a student struggling at school (from any medical or psychological condition, including concussion) is what we already do (so well!) for so many students, in all of our schools
- Because Return to Learn must be School-Based and School-Directed and can easily fall under the protections of the existing educational framework known as Multi-Tier System of Support (MTSS) or Response to Intervention (RTI)
- Because concussions don't just happen to student-athletes, concussions happen to everyday students
- Because all students must return to learn, even if they do not return to sports
- Because all students must return to school and learn even if parents choose not to have the concussion treated by a healthcare provider
- Because schools have always been and must always be places of support and success, no matter what!

That is why we wrote *Get Schooled On Concussions* for you, the Educator!

In order for students with concussion to get immediate and flexible support at school, classroom teachers need to be our First Responders for RTL. Much like a public health model where early and widespread identification, education and support occurs at the Universal/Primary Level, yielding an 80 to 90% intervention and prevention rate, RTL in the classroom setting will help our students feel better symptomatically so they can grow academically.

The existing educational framework of **Multi-Tier System of Support (MTSS)** or **Response to Intervention (RTI)** is the natural way for schools to support students with concussion. Applying concussion to MTSS and/or RTI allows educational settings to become empowered and independent in managing RTL for concussion – leading to:

- decreased reliance upon healthcare providers (that may or may not be involved per the family's choice)
- support for all students with concussion, not just athletes
- quick and flexible adjustments in the classroom (Tier 1)
- a built-in safety net for longer or more involved academic support (via Tier 2 supports)
- capacity building and long-term sustainability of RTL policy and procedures in schools

#RTLB4RTP

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Training Pyramid



Return to Learn: A Schooled-Based and School-Directed RTL Protocol

