



DATA

is not a dirty word!



Is “Data” a four letter word in your school district? If so, you are not alone.

Kara Akey is the Rtl and EL Coordinator for Grades 5-12 at the Little Chute Area School District in Little Chute, WI. If you’ve ever had a Jack’s or Tombstone frozen pizza, it was made in Little Chute.

Three years ago, Little Chute was searching for a system to help their district make the transition to data-based decision making, one of the core components of a well-rounded MTSS system. Little Chute chose **ion** primarily for its ease of use and low cost.

“For years we used manually created spreadsheets and charts that we printed from our assessment systems during our data team meetings. It was horribly inefficient - and prone to error.” Because of this, staff were reluctant to use data from an “unreliable” process.

“Data had become a four letter word for our teachers. Not only did we **not** have a reliable process for interpreting data, teachers felt as if their voice and professional insight were being eroded in favor of numbers and graphs” reflected Akey.

Since implementing **ion**, confidence in data has strengthened - and teachers are learning how to use data to either confirm or challenge their “gut” feelings about students.

“Teachers are using **ion** as a starting point as they get to know students. They are using information to create small groups and even provide test prep sessions. It has been such a change for staff to make data-driven decisions versus the “gut theory.” Don’t get me wrong, there is still a lot of discussion about what “my gut tells me” about a student, but because of **ion**, we now start the conversation with data.”



The Challenge

- Multiple data sources
- Time consuming
- Low staff confidence in data
- Reluctance to trust data



The Solution

ion provided a one stop shop for reliable data analysis and MTSS tracking



The Benefit

- Widespread confidence in data
- Data-informed decision making
- Greater ownership of MTSS process

To find out about how **ion** can help streamline your district’s MTSS, visit our website or give us a call.



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