

Mental Health Access: A School and Community Approach

Gail M. Smith

Georgia School Counselors Association

Advocacy Chair

A Framework for Safe and Successful Schools

Authored by:

American School Counselor Association (ASCA)

National Association of School Psychologists (NASP)

School Social Work Association of America (SSWA)

National Association of School Resource Officers (NASRO)

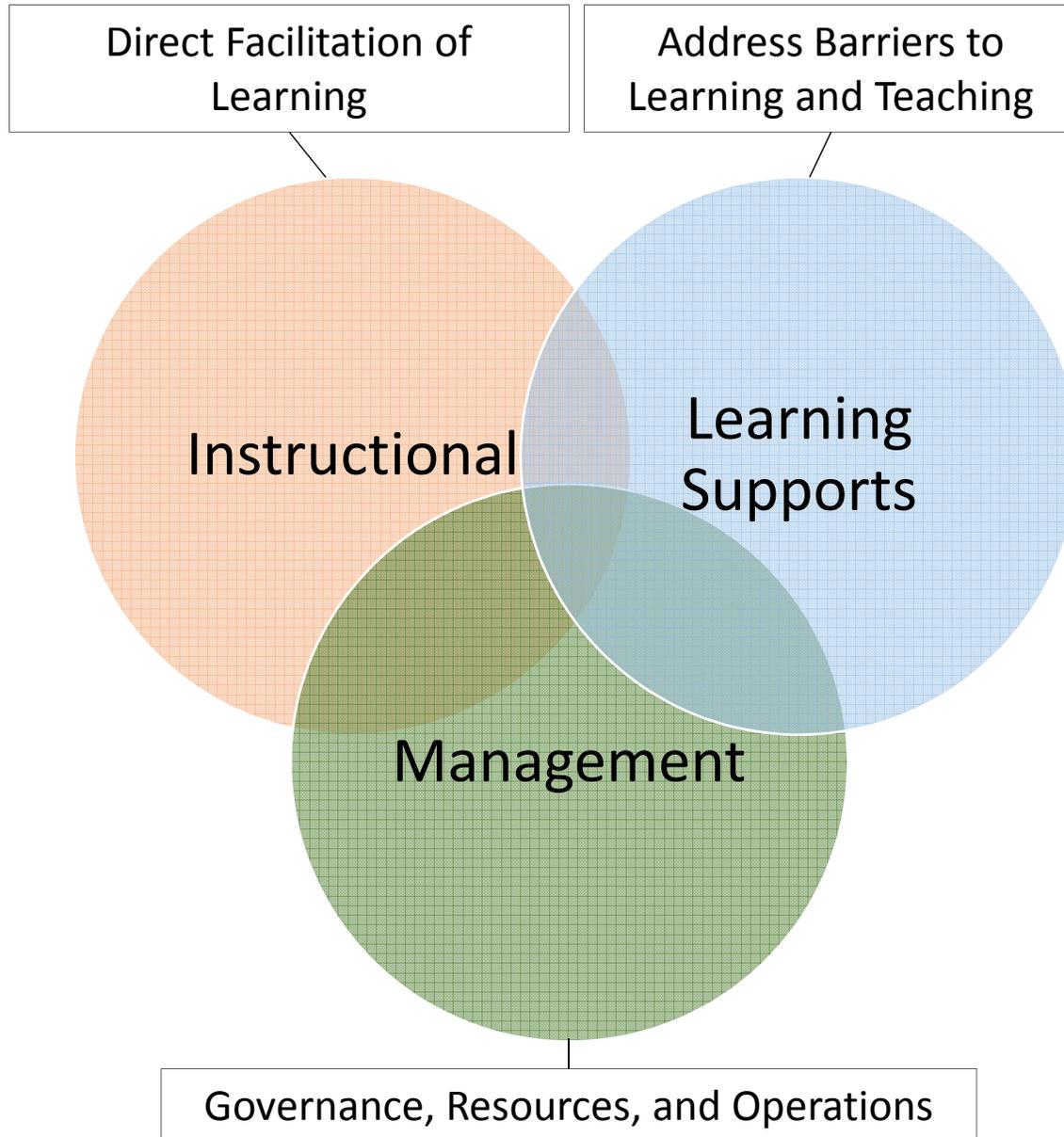
National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP)

National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP)

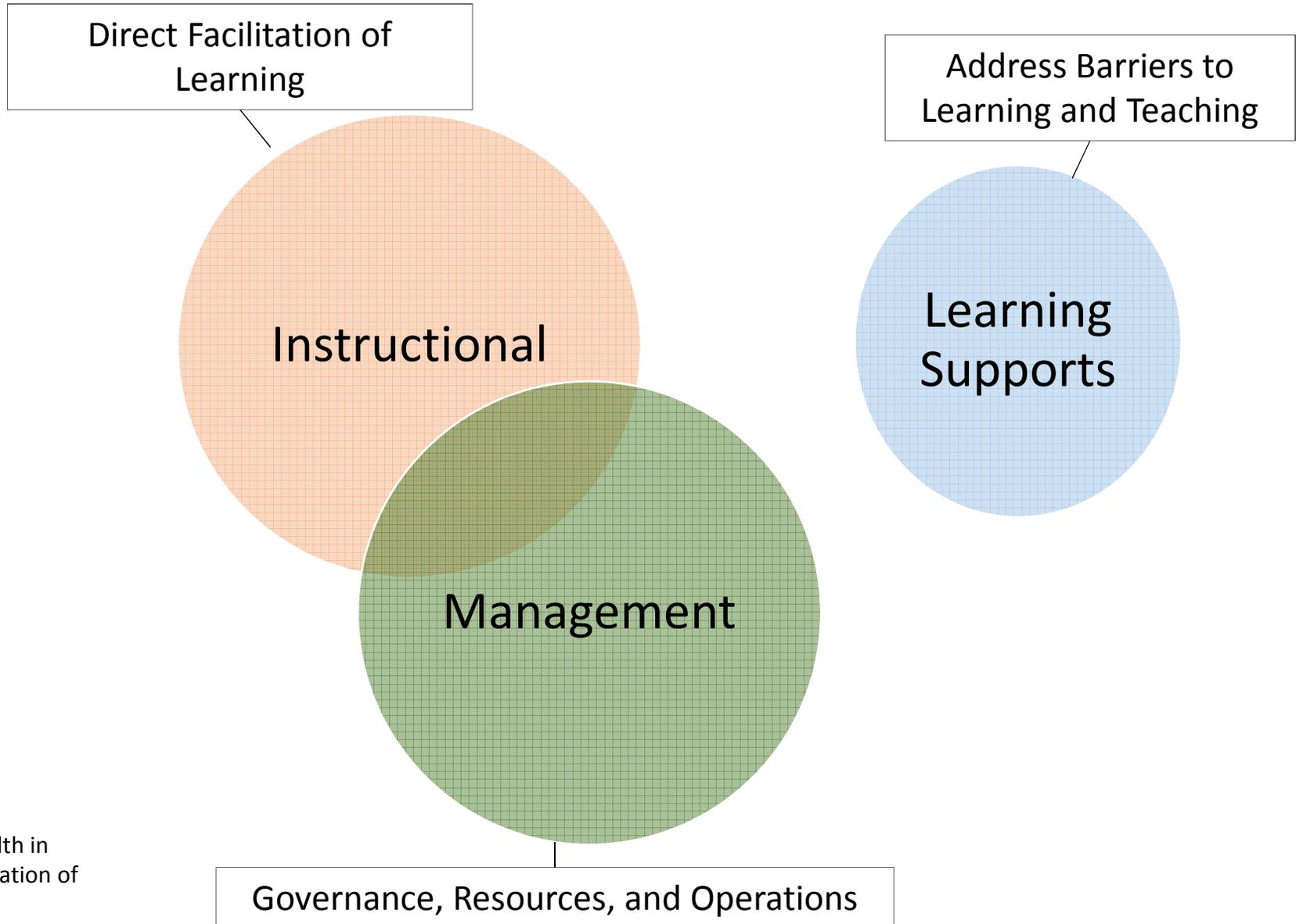
GSCA Recommendations

Community Mobilization which
Integrates Mental Health Services
through Collaboration

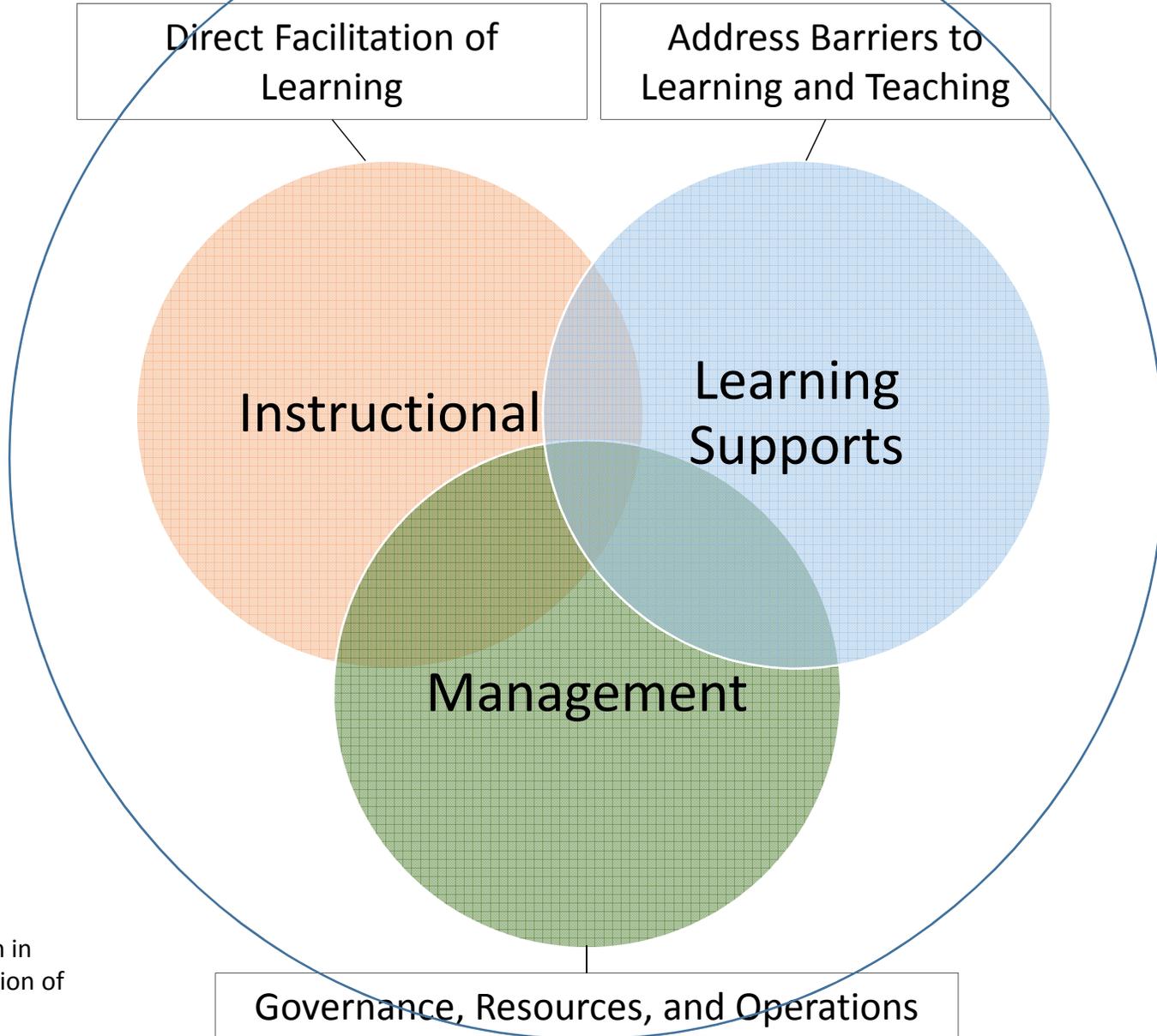
Comprehensive, Integrated School Improvement Model



Comprehensive, Integrated School Improvement Model - Reality

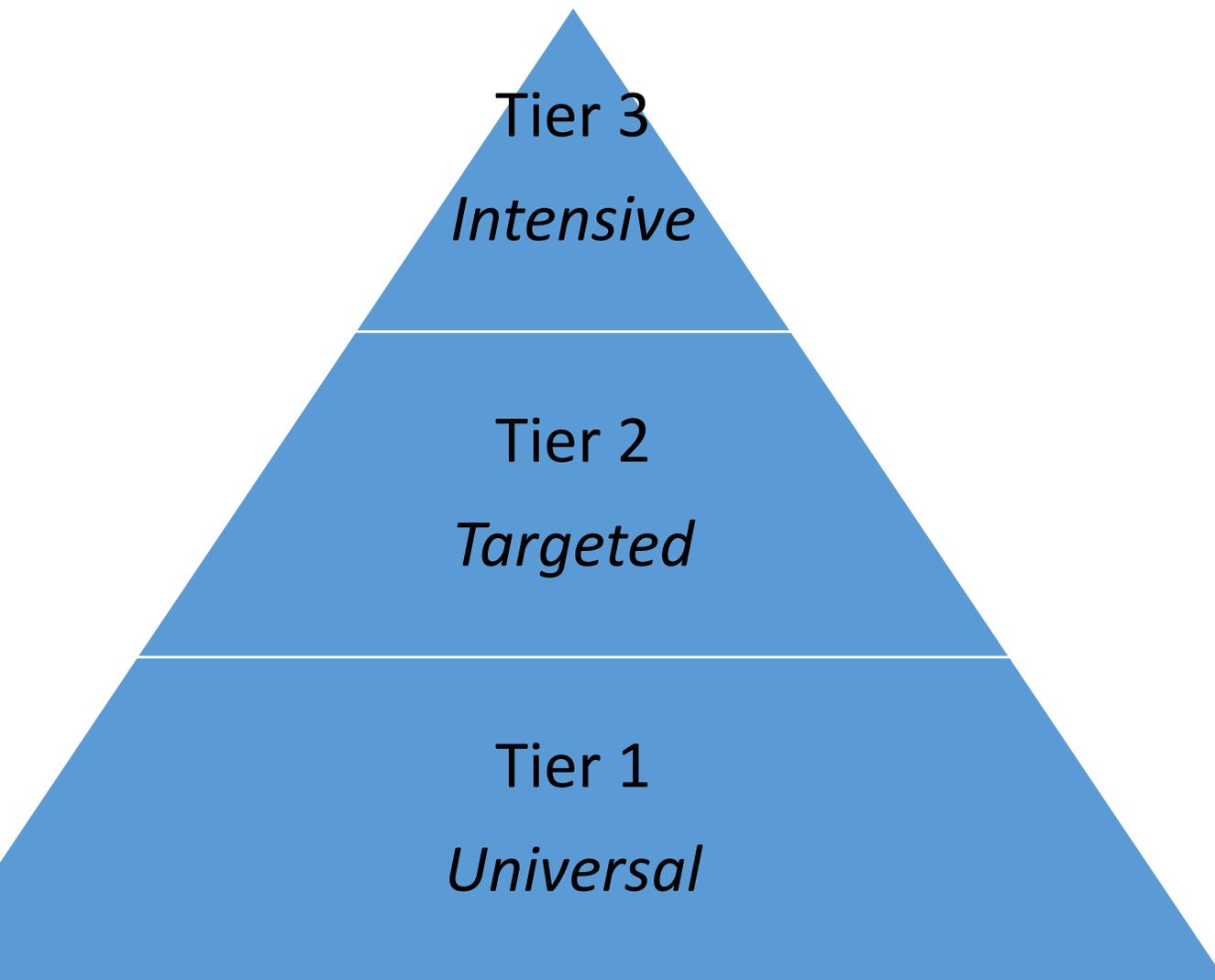


Comprehensive, Integrated School Improvement Model



GSCA Recommendations

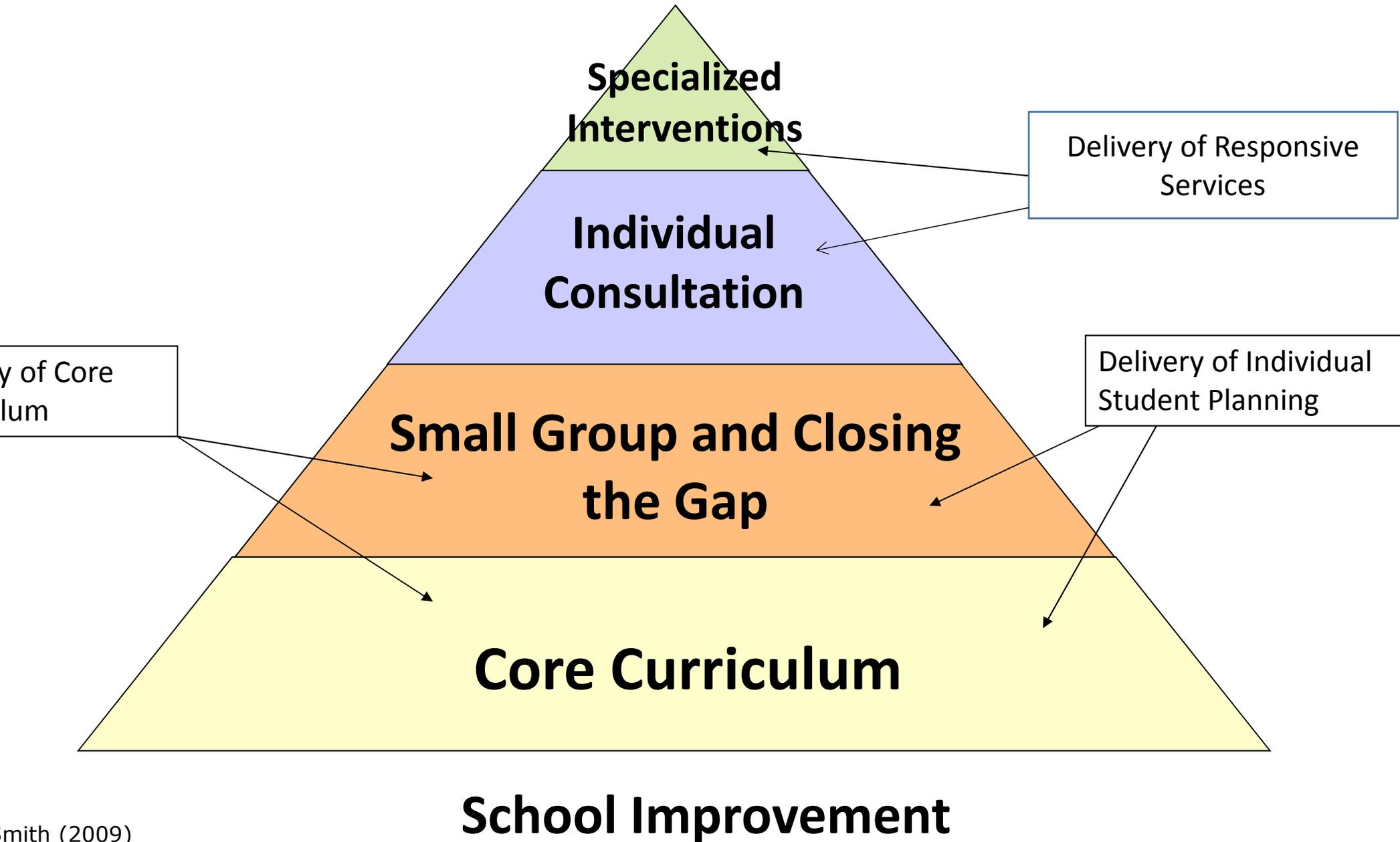
Develop and Implement Multi-Tiered
Systems of Support
(Pyramids of Intervention)



Focus on:

- Prevention/wellness
- Universal screening academic and behavioral concerns
- Evidenced based interventions that increase with intensity based on student need
- Progress monitoring
- Systematic data-based decision making

Equity and Access for ALL Students



GSCA Recommendations

Provide/Sustain Funding for School-Based
Mental Health Supports

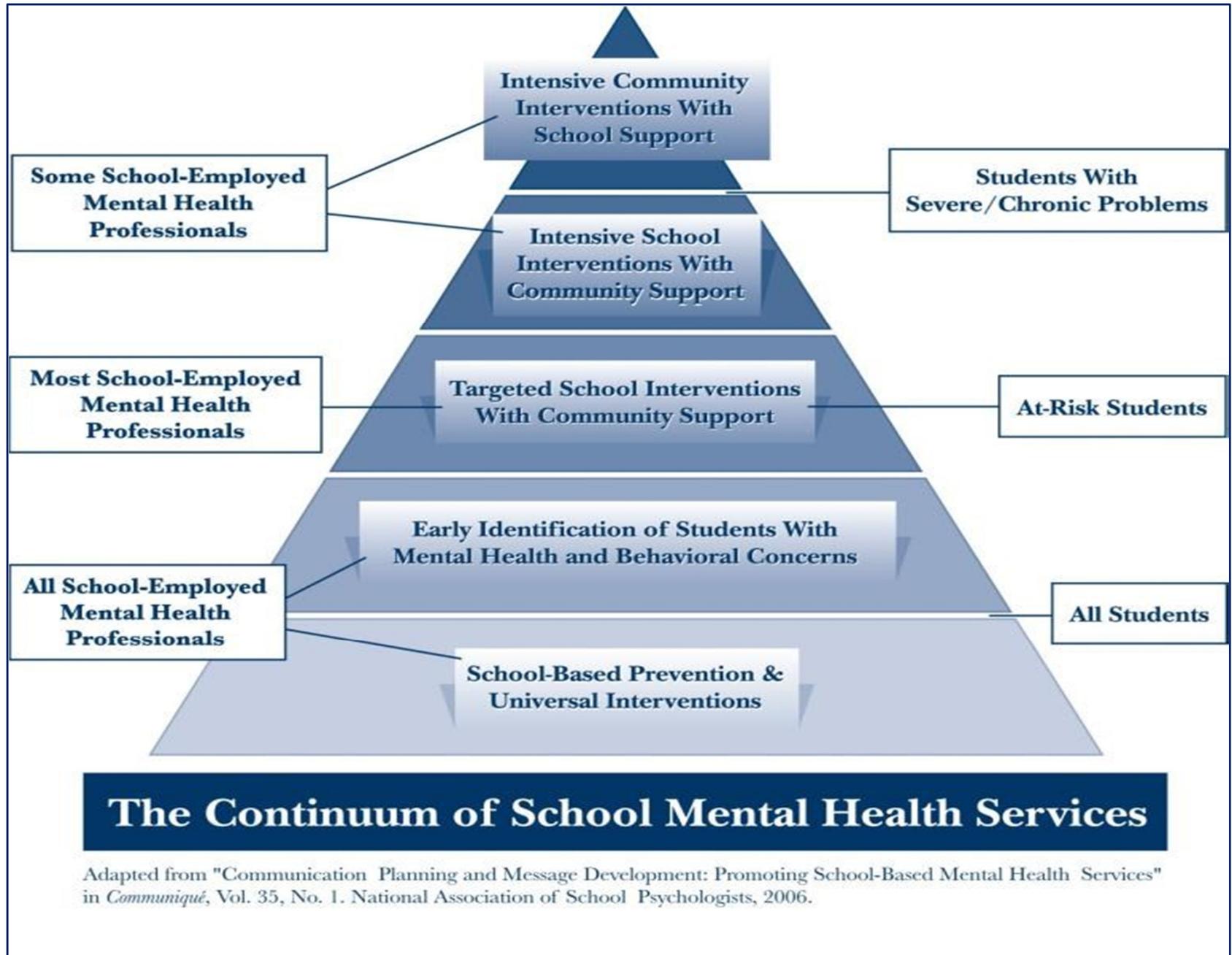
School Counselors

Social Workers

Psychologists

GSCA Recommendations

Improve Access to School-Based Mental
Health Supports



Intensive Community Interventions With School Support

Some School-Employed Mental Health Professionals

Students With Severe/Chronic Problems

Intensive School Interventions With Community Support

Most School-Employed Mental Health Professionals

At-Risk Students

Targeted School Interventions With Community Support

Early Identification of Students With Mental Health and Behavioral Concerns

All School-Employed Mental Health Professionals

All Students

School-Based Prevention & Universal Interventions

The Continuum of School Mental Health Services

Adapted from "Communication Planning and Message Development: Promoting School-Based Mental Health Services" in *Communiqué*, Vol. 35, No. 1. National Association of School Psychologists, 2006.

GSCA Recommendations

Develop a Statewide Model that
Integrates School Safety and
Crisis/Emergency Prevention,
Preparedness, Response, and Recovery



PaRE School Crisis Prevention and Intervention Training Curriculum. Adapted with permission from Cherry Hill District. (2008). Emergency response and crisis management guide. Greenwood Village, CO: Author.

GSCA Recommendations

1. Community Mobilization which Integrates Services through Collaboration
2. Develop and Implement Multi-tiered Systems of Support
3. Provide/Sustain Funding for School-Based Mental Health Supports
4. Improve Access to School-Based Mental Health Supports
5. Develop a Statewide Model that Integrates School Safety and Crisis/Emergency Prevention, Preparedness, Response, and Recovery

References

Cowan, K. C., Vaillancourt, K., Rossen, E., & Pollitt, k. (2013). A framework for safe and successful schools [Brief]. Bethesda, MD: National Association of School Psychologists.

available online at www.nasponline.org/schoolsafetyframework.

Contact Information

Gail M. Smith

GSCA Advocacy Chair

gsmithlpc@yahoo.com

404.406.6414

Georgia School Counselors Association

info@gaschoolcounselors.com

