The Thinkery: A Collaborative Tier-2 Intervention

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What is it?

A calm, structured space for safety, resetting, and refocusing

- Emphasis on balancing SEB needs and minimizing missed instructional time

- Think emotional/behavioral "triage center"

- Staffed full-time - an <u>investment</u>

Why do we need this?

We care about our kids - "triage" space

Virtually zero quiet, calm space in general education

SEB Quality Indicators

Trauma Informed Practices

It works!

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ENVIRONMENT

SEL PLANNING & DELIVERY

SUPPORT

COLLABORATION

INCLUSION

DATA DRIVEN

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SAFETY

TRUSTWORTHINESS

EMPOWERMENT

CHOICE

COLLABORATION

Stress response in the moment

Prefrontal cortex
Problem solving, planning, logic, empathy

Limbic system, Brain Stem
Fight, flight, freeze
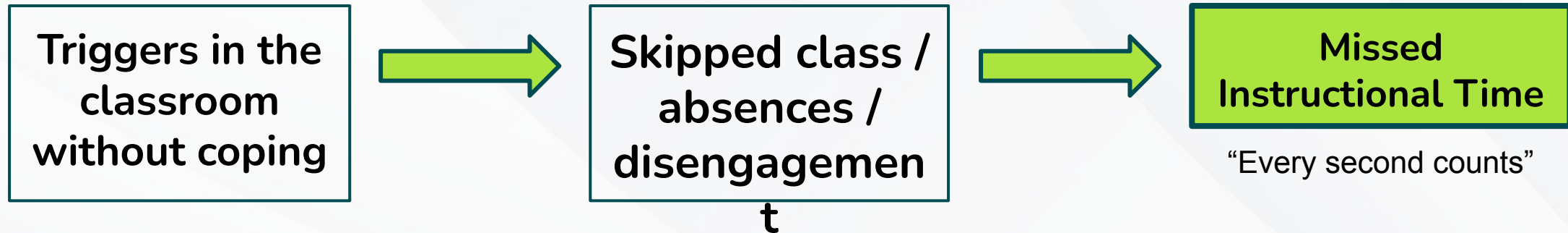
Supplements/Alternatives to Punishments

Consequence Ladder	→	OSS & ISS	→	Missed Instructional Time

"Every second counts"
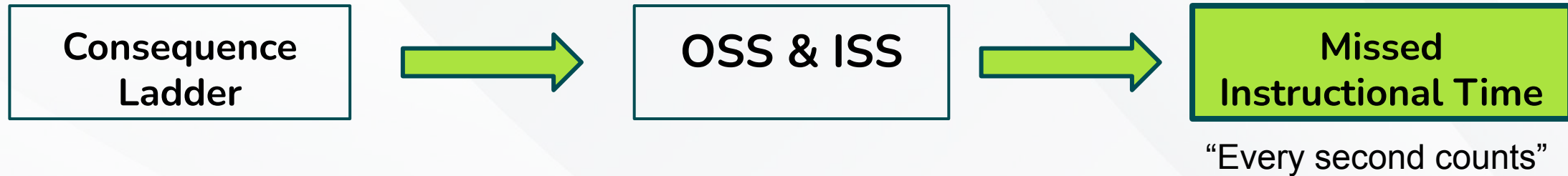
We need a space to safely nip things in the bud before they become bigger problems!
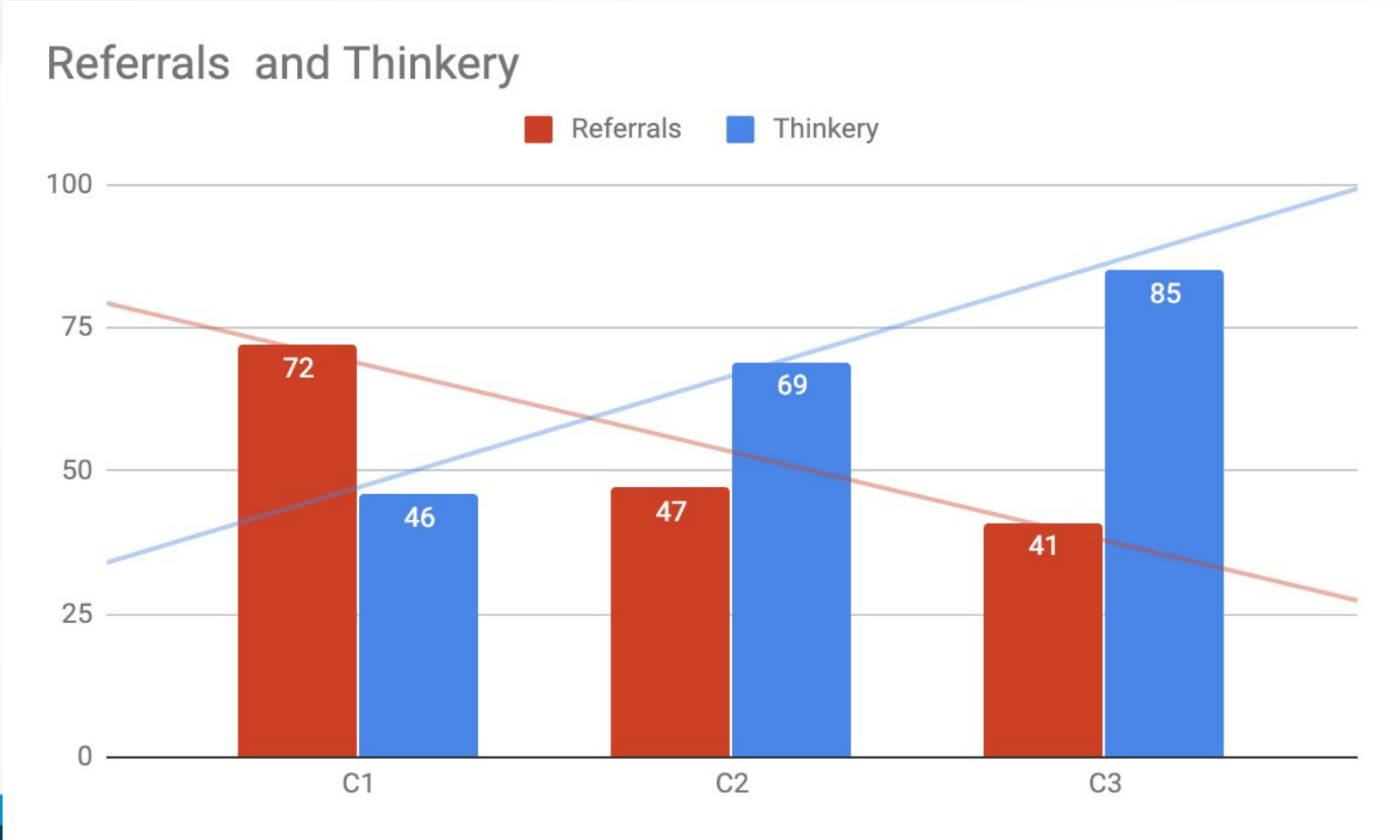
The Bottom Line

Prevent longer / more frequent absence

Triggers in the classroom without coping	→	Skipped class / absences / disengagement	→	Missed Instructional Time

"Every second counts"

Invest a little time on the front end, save much more time on the back end.

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Discipline Referral / Thinkery Data Year 1

Key Resources for Support

Referrals and Thinkery

Weekly Avg

	Referrals	Thinkery
C1	46	89
C2	36	104
C3	30	141

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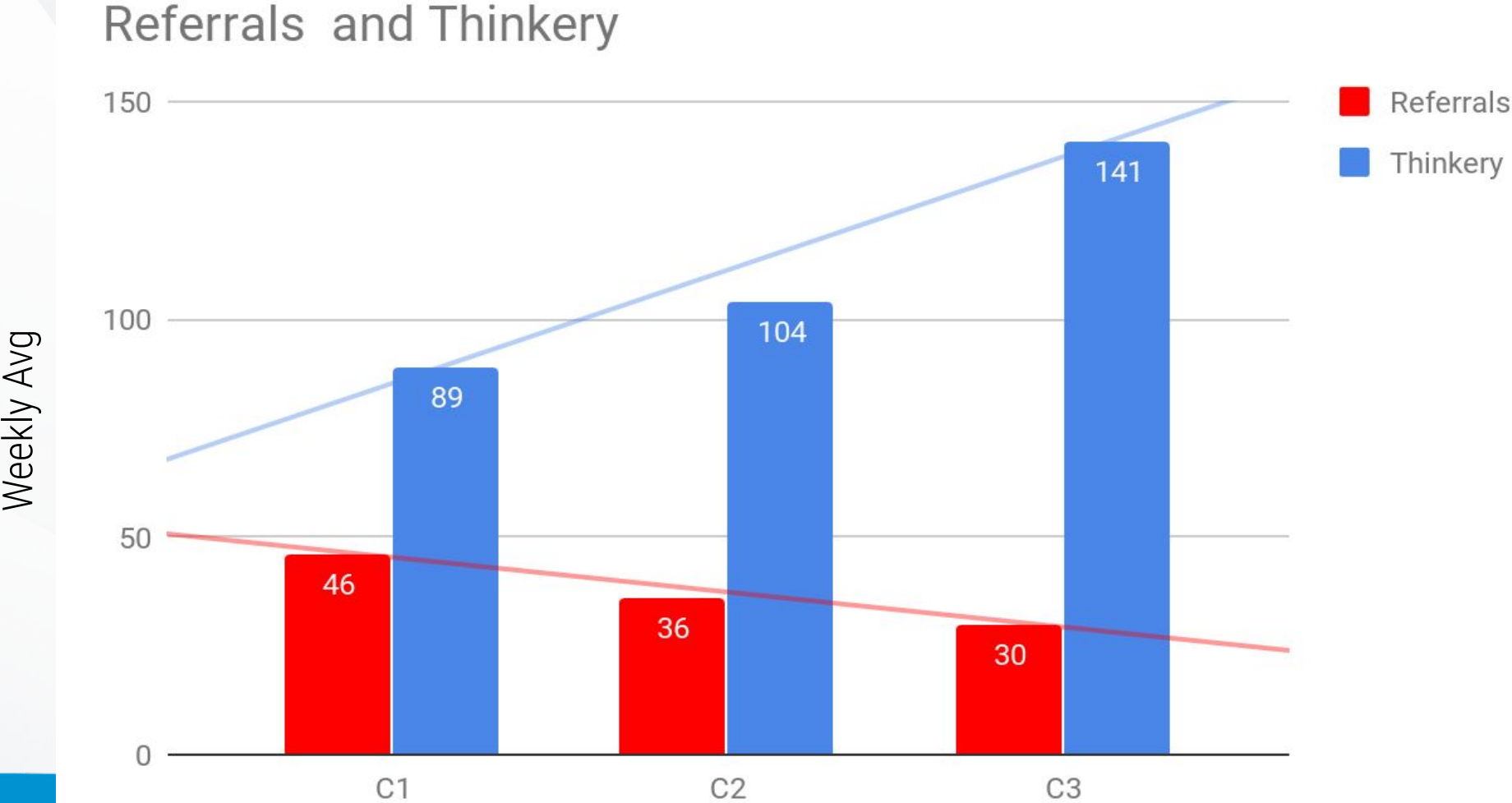
What happens in Thinkery?

1. Engage
2. Assess
3. Intervene
4. Plan / Reassess

*goal is to shoot for 5-10 min per visit

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What happens in Thinkery?

Intervention is student-led to whatever fits their need at the moment

Students are provided <u>space</u> and <u>choice</u>

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What happens in Thinkery?

Data Collection!

How do students access this?

Student request

a. Teacher / staff decision!

b. Cost / benefit analysis: missed class time vs escalation risk

c. If a student is calm, able to be in class and engage, it is ok to say, "not right now", or "I need you to finish _____ first"

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When to use the Thinkery

Teacher / staff offer

a. Student presents escalated behavior beyond baseline, or normal, behavior

b. Student is actively engaged in minor conflict with another student and there is possibility for escalation (no physical threat)

c. Student is being targeted or harassed by other students and harm is demonstrated

d. Student is withdrawn / disengaged / distracted
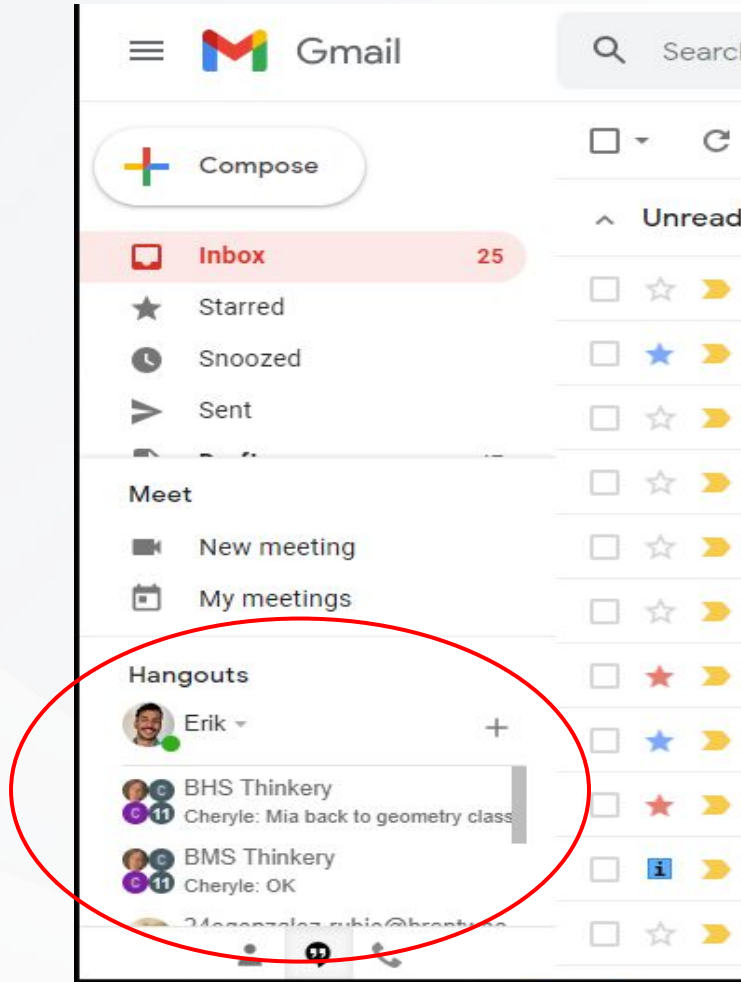
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When NOT to use the Thinkery

- The Thinkery should <u>never be used or presented as a punishment.</u> This is not time-out!

- Be careful that Thinkery also isn't exclusively used as a reward.

- Students must be allowed to decline teacher / staff offer

Communication

Google Chat

Communication

"John to Thinkery" (wait for response before sending)

Thinkery staff gives updates for transition back or if extra time is needed

Thinkery and its process have boundaries

Questions? Concerns?

Our Thinkery Story

How to Build a Thinkery

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Step 1: Administration buy-in

Step 2: Secure a space

- Room must be private

- Enough space to feel calm, safe, and room to move around

Step 3: Secure an individual to facilitate Thinkery day-to-day

- Someone with SEB intervention experience

- Organized, understands systems

Step 4: Obtain teacher buy-in

- Education

- Present the what, why, and how

- Allow room for teacher input at every stage of the design / rollout process. Prep teachers for troubleshooting

Step 5: Student education / rollout

- Present the what, why, and how, do's and don'ts

- Sell it

- Allow room for student input

Step 6 (Rollout): Assess, Reassess, Check in

- Review data regularly, reinforce fidelity to procedures

- Share important data points / updates with admin, staff

- Be open to make changes to structure / procedures

Questions? Concerns?

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