

# DORIS MOUNTAIN SUMMIT

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## Strengthening Tier 1 Instruction Through Strategic Differentiation in Small Groups

Dr. Catlin Tucker

**Session 2** : 1:00-2:15

**Level:** PK-12

**Theme:** Systems

Strong Tier 1 instruction is the foundation of an effective MTSS framework, yet it is often delivered primarily through whole-group lessons. This session focuses on how strategic differentiation in small groups can strengthen Tier 1 by meeting learners where they are while maintaining access to grade-level standards. Participants will explore how small groups function as a preventative, equity-driven approach within Tier 1 instruction and how they can reduce the need for more intensive interventions. Teachers will leave with practical strategies for differentiating instruction, scaffolds, and support in small groups to increase engagement, provide real-time feedback, and ensure more students experience success during core instruction.

### **Dr. Catlin Tucker**

Dr. Catlin Tucker is an education expert, bestselling author, and international speaker with 24 years of experience in education. She was Named Sonoma County Teacher of the Year in 2010, and authors books on innovative approaches to teaching and learning.

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