

What Role Can I Play?

Collaborating with Student and Families

Restorative culture is inclusive of all members of the school community. Students and families should play an integral role in implementation to ensure that restorative practices are both implemented with fidelity and meet the needs of the entire school community.

- Students and families should be trained in restorative practices. Students can facilitate peace circles or serve as peer mediators. Family members can volunteer time in the peace room or restorative office.
- Students and families should be included in staff professional development opportunities to make sure the community perspective is represented as educators refine their practices.
- Students and families should be invited to observe classroom instruction and provide non-evaluative feedback to educators on the climate and culture of their classrooms.
- Students and families should be a part of the data analysis process and should receive school discipline and referral data throughout the school year. This is great way for schools to show progress and field questions or comments about implementation.
- Students and families should be involved in the development of school policies and procedures. Existing groups like parent-teacher associations or student leadership and advocacy groups (eg, organizations that work with students of color) should regularly be welcomed to participate in conversations around school culture.
- Students and families should be involved in the hiring process, not only for the restorative practices coordinator, but for any staff in the building to ensure that educators who believe in a restorative mindset are being invited to join the school community.