Restorative Justice: Whole School Implementation

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Staff Buy-In & Ownership October 19, 2017

Denver School-Based Restorative Practices Partnership





Discover a World of Opportunity"

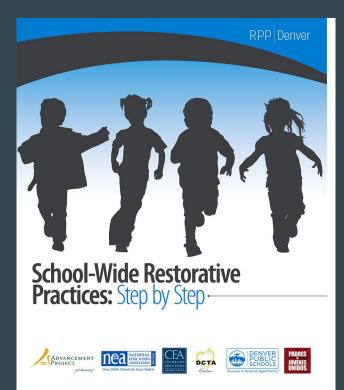






Great Public Schools for Every Student

School-Wide Restorative Practices: Step by Step



Addresses the larger systems and structures needed in a school to build and sustain restorative practices

Created by representatives from each of our partners and school-based practitioners from three Denver schools

Staff Buy-In & Ownership

Learning Community Objectives

Benchmark 1: There is common understanding of why restorative justice practices are being implemented.

Benchmark 4: Educators, both new and returning, are trained in restorative justice practices.

Staff Buy-In & Ownership of Restorative Justice Practices

- Most educators participate in restorative professional development.
- Most educators work to build relationships through the use of circles or other proactive restorative justice practices.
- Most educators engage in restorative dialogue and are willing to take responsibility for their role in interactions with fellow staff, families, and students.
- Most educators maintain a growth mindset that emphasizes improvement over accomplishment and views student and staff member behavior as amenable to change.
- Most educators trust the restorative process to hold individuals accountable for their behavior and to repair community when harm has been caused.
- Most educators understand that, when implemented with a race-conscious lens, the use of restorative justice practices can reduce racial disparities in discipline

How do we get there?

Intentionally by

- 1. Building skills within educators,
- 2. Providing educators the time & resources to practice,
- 3. Promoting educator self-care,
- 4. Providing educators the time & space to discuss challenges and share ideas, and
- 5. Highlighting success stories.

Skill-building

See pages 36 & 37 in the implementation guide.

- **Understanding the "why":** examine disaggregated discipline data, read articles that show the impact of restorative justice practices compared to punitive, strengthen equity focus
- **Proactive Restorative Justice Practices:** Circle keeping, Adding a restorative lens to lesson plans + classroom systems
- **Reactive Restorative Justice Practices:** Restorative Dialogue
- **Complimentary PD:** Implicit Bias, Anti-Racism, Trauma-Informed Care, Social-Emotional Curriculum, Parent-Teacher Home Visit Program, PBIS

Time & Resources to Practice

- Non-evaluative coaching on restorative justice practices (RJ/RP Coordinator!)
- Prompting questions or sentence stems for having constructive conversations
- Schedule time in the classroom when teachers should be building community *throughout the school year*
- Clear systems to refer students, families, and staff to the restorative process when in-class interventions are not successful

Educator Self-Care

- Use restorative justice practices with your staff
- Community building among staff
 - Potlucks
 - Staff competitions
 - Organized events like yoga and hikes
- Staff celebrations and appreciation
- Extra pay!

Time & Space to Discuss Concerns and Share Ideas

- Involve educators in the process of developing school policies and procedures
- Invite teachers to a Behavior Team meeting
- Avenues for feedback for educators
- Noncritical space to troubleshoot concerns (perhaps using protocols)

Highlight Successes

- Celebrate educator and student success stories a transformed relationship, the development of new skills, a new positive outlook, or just a good day
- Build on existing expertise in your building:
 - Have educators share their best relationship-building strategy in team meetings
 - Have educators observe one another using de-escalation or restorative dialogue

Questions & Answers