Restorative Practices: Empowering Our Academic Environment

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Objectives

- Students and educators will learn to work together in conversation and trust, building classroom communities that are supported by clear agreements and authentic communication.
- The goal is to reduce suspension and expulsion rates, creating a safer and happier space for students.
Check In

Name

Where are you from?

In one word...
What Is Restorative Justice?

Why It Matters?
Suspensions and Expulsions by Race/Ethnicity

Among students who started high school in 2009, a higher percentage of Black students than of Hispanic, White, and Asian students had ever been suspended or expelled by 2012.

36% BLACK
21% HISPANIC
14% WHITE
6% ASIAN

Note: Includes suspensions and expulsions prior to high school as well. Starting high school is defined as starting 9th grade.

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES)
Community Building

One minute each, then move to left.

1. Describe a time in your life when you felt connected to community.
2. What factors need to be in place to have a community connection?
3. What can you do to create community connections?
Self Healing Communities

- **Safe** and regularly scheduled ways of **coming together** for belonging and cooperative action,

- Social and interorganizational networks characterized by learning, reciprocity, social bridging, and efficacy,

- Shared times and venues for **critical reflection** and **decision making** about **hope-filled action**,

- Continuous expansion of opportunities for informal and formal leadership.
Activity:

What Is A Village?

Create/Draw your village (Feel free to be creative.)

Every image should be symbolic of your community values.

Every image should be agreed to by the collective.

Be prepared to share out.
Restorative Practices

- Community Conferencing
- Community Service
- Peer Juries
- Circle Process

- Preventative & Post-Conflict Resolution Programs
- Peer Mediation
- Informal Restorative Practices
- Social-emotional Learning
Action Steps for Practitioners to Support Restorative Practices

1. What can I do to start using restorative practices in my classroom?
2. How can I help my school or district adopt restorative practices?
3. How can I advocate for restorative practices on a larger scale (in my community)?
Check Out

What’s next?
Restorative Justice in Education
Resources

- Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)
  https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/childabuseandneglect/acestudy/index.html
- An Introduction to Restorative Justice
- Response: How to Practice Restorative Justice in Schools
- Restorative Justices: Fostering Healthy Relationships & Promoting Positive Discipline in Schools
- SaferSanerSchools™  https://www.iirp.edu/projects/safer-saner-schools
- The Little Book of Restorative Justice in Education: Fostering Responsibility, Healing, and Hope in Schools by Katherine Evans, Dorothy Vaandering
- What Teachers Need to Know About Restorative Justice
  https://www.weareteachers.com/restorative-justice/

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