



Online Learning Event: Positive Behavioral Strategies- Restorative Practices

Recording Link and Q&A Summary
March 10, 2016 | 2:00-3:30 p.m. EST

On March 10, 2016, the National Center on Safe Supportive Learning Environments (NCSSE), on behalf of the U.S. Department of Education (ED)/Office of Safe and Healthy Students, hosted an online learning event on the topic of “*Positive Behavioral Strategies: Restorative Justice*”. The online learning event explored the fundamental principles, theories and models of restorative practices; the intersection and integration of restorative practices and other positive behavioral strategies; the evidence base of restorative practices, and the benefits of restorative practices in schools. During the session, the presenters (**Stephanie Autumn** and **Kathleen Guarino**, NCSSE) received several questions from participants. The Center has prepared the following Q&A Summary with responses to each question that was asked during the event. For additional information, please email or call the Center (nccsle@air.org; 1-800-258-8413).

Please note the content of this summary was prepared under a contract from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Safe and Healthy Students to the American Institutes for Research (AIR). This Q&A Summary does not necessarily represent the policy or views of the U.S. Departments of Education or Health and Human Services, nor do they imply endorsement by the U.S. Department of Education.

Recording Link:

<http://air-org.adobeconnect.com/p6uf7ey94v5/>

Questions and Answers

Q1: What might an example (s) be of giving voice to the person harmed?

A1: The following Restorative Process support youth and adults who have been harmed:

- Talking Circle
- Family Group Decision Making Conferencing

Each of the Restorative Processes “give voice” to the individual who was harmed and allows them to share what they are feeling as of a result of the harm and what they need to heal from the harm.



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Q2: Can RP be effective if the whole school does not "buy in"?

A2: Yes, Restorative Schools can be built one Restorative Process at a time via the following steps:

- Training of teachers, administrators, and other school staff that interact with students
- School staff who were trained - practice, practice, practice the Restorative process they were trained in
- Creating a Restorative Practices Work Group/Team
- Developing mission and goals
- Developing 90 day implementation plans
- Monthly meeting of the Restorative Practices team to build relationship with each other, review 90 days plans and assess capacity and needs to move forward.

Q3: For districts that have buildings that are operating out of the restorative framework, how long has the journey taken and how is the best way to get leadership on board once staff are interested?

A3: Sometimes the "seeding" of a Restorative framework can take years. The best way to get leadership on board is to share success at other schools/school districts and evaluation data on Restorative Practices decreasing out of school suspensions and increasing schools engagement.

Q4: What are experiences others have had in helping teachers with the mind shift and learning as they go along in this work?

A4: A number of schools that I (Stephanie) work with share Restorative Practices Ted Talks and YouTube videos with educators, administrators, and students, starting a Restorative Practices book club, conducting staff meetings in a Circle, sharing positive impact of Restorative Practices in their classrooms.