Overview of Restorative Practices

Baltimore County Public Schools
Office of School Climate: SSW and MTSS
Beth Lambert, Facilitator
Learning Outcomes

I Can:

1) Describe the *rationale* and *philosophy* for Restorative Practices in schools

2) Identify a *continuum of restorative practices* used to strengthen relationships and address conflict
Welcoming Ritual

Opening Circle

1. Think of a time when you were sitting or standing in a circle with others.

2. Use the talking piece to go around the room and say 1 or 2 words about how it felt or what you think was important about the experience.
Our Agreements/Norms

• Be Present
• Stay Engaged
• Keep an Open Mind
• Listen and Share Respectfully
Restorative Practices is an approach to **build community** and to **respond to challenging behavior** through authentic dialogue, coming to understanding, and making things right.

*Source: IIRP*
Central to RP: Positive Relationships

- Building Community
- Restoring Relationships & Community

Positive Relationships
Restorative Practices Continuum

Informal:
- Affective statements
- Affective questions
- Small impromptu conversation

Formal:
- Circle
- Formal conference
A Multi-Tiered Approach

1. Repair Harm & Restore Relationships
   - Formal restorative Conference
   - Reintegration/Welcome Circle

2. Maintain Relationships
   - Impromptu Conversations
   - Problem-solving circles

3. Build Community
   - Circles
   - Affective Language
Affective Statements

• Brief statements about the **impact** of another person’s behavior (positive or negative)
• Usually in form of “**I statements**”
• Verbalize how you feel in relation to the behavior
• Provide feedback, set boundaries, and **teach empathy**
• FOCUS ON THE BEHAVIOR (remove the “deed from the doer”)

  “I am frustrated...”
  “It makes me uncomfortable...”
  “I feel sad when...”
  “I feel happy when...”
  “I’m so proud of you...”
Making Affective Statements

*These steps can be interchangeable

Step 1: Identify the behavior

Step 2: State how the behavior affects you or others

“*When your head is on your desk, ____________.*”

______ *I feel* worried because you usually participate in our discussions.

**Noticing language** is an example of affective language

“When you walk in the hallway, that is keeping everyone safe.”
Affective Statements Activity

Change into an affective statement:

1. Think before you act.
2. Great job on your test!
3. Stop pushing your brother.
Restorative Practices Questions Cards

Restorative Questions, Side Two

• Think about a time in your life when you were harmed.
• What did you think when you realized what had happened?
• What impact has this incident had on you and others?
• What has been the hardest thing for you?
• What do you think needs to happen to make things right?
Restorative Questions, Side One

- Think about a time in your life when you harmed someone.
- What happened?
- What were you thinking of at the time?
- What have you thought about since?
- Who has been affected by what you have done?
- What do you think you need to do to make things right?
# Social Emotional Learning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competency</th>
<th>Restorative Practices (Examples)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Self-Awareness</strong></td>
<td>Affective Statement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>“I feel upset when you do not call me by my name.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Self-Management</strong></td>
<td>Affective Statement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>“When you come home late, I am worried about your safety.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Social Awareness</strong></td>
<td>Restorative Conversation/Questions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>“How do you think your actions impacted others?”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Relationship Skills</strong></td>
<td>Community-Building Circle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>“What is your favorite season?”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Responsible Decision-Making</strong></td>
<td>Restorative Questions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>“What will you do to make things right?”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Office of School Climate: SSW and MTSS
Questions/Discussion
Restorative Practices in Action

Video - Schools Resolve Conflicts by Getting Kids to Talk Things Out