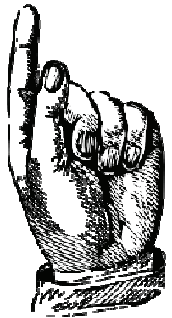





Restorative Justice in Schools Quick Reference

Restorative justice in schools, what is it?

Restorative justice in schools is an alternative discipline model with a focus on building student accountability while strengthening student and community relationships. Restorative justice helps reduce exclusionary practices, as well as decrease police and juvenile justice involvement. It is not a singular program or process, rather a philosophy and practice based on a core set of principles that emphasizes healing and repair over punishment, inclusion over exclusion, and individual accountability with a high level of community support.

<u>Retributive Justice</u>	<u>Restorative Justice</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Misbehavior defined as breaking school rules. • Focus on establishing blame. • Administrator determines punishment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Misbehavior impacts/harms people and relationships. • Focus on establishing responsibility to repair harm/make things right. • Those responsible and those impacted create agreement to make things right. 

Is restorative justice a weaker form of discipline?

Will it replace what we already do?

No. Restorative justice provides a unique learning opportunity for students to understand more deeply the impact of their behavior on the person directly involved and the surrounding community (classmates, teachers, staff, school community). The goal is to maintain a high level of both student accountability and community support around making positive choices.

Where/how does restorative justice happen?

When a harm occurs a restorative approach would begin with the questions:

- ♥ What happened?
- ♥ Who was harmed/impacted?
- ♥ What can be done to make things right?

♥ What can be done to keep this from happening again?