

September 2014

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE PRACTICES IN SCHOOLS: ONLINE RESOURCES

Schools and school districts around the country are turning to restorative justice practices to resolve conflict through mediation and build community and trust within schools. The links provided below are offered as resources to school administrators seeking to learn more about restorative practices.

Guides and Toolkits

- Restorative Practices: Fostering Healthy Relationships and Promoting Positive Discipline in Schools. American Federation of Teachers, National Education Association, Advancement Project and the National Opportunity to Learn Campaign. March 2014.
- From Policy to Standard Practice: Restorative Justice in Chicago Public Schools. Spring 2012.
- Parent-to-Parent Guide: Restorative Justice in Chicago Public Schools. Stopping the School-to-Prison Pipeline. A COFI Project, Fall 2012
- Restorative Justice: A working guide for schools. School Health Services Coalition, Alameda County Health Care Services Agency, 2011
- Implementing Restorative Justice: A guide for Schools. Chicago, IL: the Illinois Criminal Justice Authority, 2009
- Minnesota Department of Education Restorative Interventions Implementation Toolkit

News Articles and Case Studies

- Dignity in Schools, Restorative Practices in Schools
- Applying Restorative Practices to Minneapolis Public Schools, Students Recommended for Possible Expulsion. Final Report. December 2013.
- The Christian Science Monitor: Restorative Justice: One High School's Path to Reducing Suspensions by half. March 31, 2013.
- Opening Up, Students Transform a Vicious Cycle. The New York Times. April 3, 2013.
- Building Safe, Supportive and Restorative School Communities in New York City. Case Studies Series, Vol. II. Summer 2013. A report by Dignity in Schools Campaign–New York, Make the Road New York, National Economic and Social Rights Initiative (NESRI), Sistas and Brothas United, and Teachers Unite.
- 'Restorative Practices': Discipline But Different. Education Week. October 2012.
- Building Safe, Supportive and Restorative School Communities in New York City. Case Studies Series, Summer 2011. A report by the NYU School of Law Advanced Mediation Clinic, National Economic and Social Rights Initiative (NESRI), Make the Road New York, Teachers Unite, and Dignity in Schools Campaign–New York.

Additional Resources

- **The International Institute for Restorative Practices**
The International Institute for Restorative Practices is a private standalone accredited graduate school in Pennsylvania and is the world's first graduate school devoted entirely to the teaching,

research and dissemination of restorative practices. While the IIRP is a relatively new graduate school, the organization itself has for some time been an integral part of a large worldwide movement of scholars, policy-makers and practitioners advancing the fields of restorative justice and, more broadly, restorative practices. A few resources that can be found on their website include:

- [Restorative Works Learning Network: a project of the Restorative Practices Foundation](#)
- [Professional Development: Training of the Trainers: 2-Day Facilitating Restorative Conferences](#)
- [Professional Development: Training of the Trainers: Introduction to Restorative Practices and Using Circles Effectively](#)
- **Restorative Justice Colorado**
In 2007 upon the signature of Governor Bill Ritter, the Colorado Coordinating Council on Restorative Justice was created within the State Court Administrator's Office. The State Restorative Justice Council advances restorative justice principles and promotes restorative justice throughout Colorado by providing a gateway to information, networking, and support. The website provides several resources to support restorative justice within schools, the justice system, and in communities. A few resources that can be found on their website include:
 - [Denver Public Schools Restorative Justice Program, Final Report, 2008-2009](#)
 - ['Restorative Justice Pilot Program at Skinner Middle School' summary document](#)
 - [Links to restorative justice blogs; laws on restorative justice; and other restorative justice resources for schools](#)
- **The Institute for Restorative Justice and Restorative Dialogue, University of Texas-Austin**
Established in 2008, the Institute for Restorative Justice and Restorative Dialogue (IRJRD) seeks to build a national mindset that embraces restorative justice principles. Its mission is to advance meaningful accountability, victim healing and community safety and provide support to the rapidly emerging restorative justice initiatives in Texas. Their website provides several resources to support restorative discipline in schools, including:
 - [Ed White Middle School Restorative Discipline Evaluation: Implementation and Impact](#)
 - [Ed White Restorative Discipline Teacher's Manual](#)
 - [Restorative Justice in School Communities: Successes, Obstacles, and Areas for Improvement](#)
- **Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) – Restorative Measures**
The Minnesota Department of Education helps schools develop programming, curricula and intervention practices to create safe schools by teaching social skills, building positive school climate and repairing harm when it happens. The department offers a number of resources and toolkits on restorative justice, including:
 - [Restorative School Community Building Practices](#)
 - [Restorative Measures in Schools Survey](#)
 - [Restorative Measures in Schools Online Resources](#)
- **Illinois Balanced and Restorative Justice (IBARJ)**
IBARJ is a network of professionals, volunteers, and organizations working locally, regionally, and

statewide to expand and sustain the availability of balanced and restorative justice practices and programs for citizens of Illinois. Many resources are provided, including resources for evaluating restorative practices:

- [Data & Evaluation Resources](#)
- **Public Counsel, Fix School Discipline**
Public Counsel is the largest *pro bono* law firm in the nation assisting over 30,000 children, youth, families, and community organizations every year. In 2012 Public Counsel launched www.FixSchoolDiscipline.org to support common-sense solutions to California's school suspension epidemic. A Spanish-language version of the website is [available](#). The websites feature videos, news clips, research, and tools for Californians to address school discipline laws in their state. A few resources found on their website include:
 - [How Can We Fix School Discipline Community Toolkit - A step-by-step guide to working together to change harsh discipline rules](#)
 - [Evidence Based Strategies – Local Control Funding Formula \(LCFF\). Toolkit](#)
 - [Several archived webinars, including a few on addressing implicit bias in suspensions](#)
 - [Research on problems and solutions regarding out-of-school suspensions](#)
- **The George Lucas Educational Foundation (GLEF), Edutopia**
GLEF is dedicated to improving the K-12 education through innovative, replicable, and evidence-based strategies that prepare students to thrive in their studies, careers, and adult lives. GLEF's www.Edutopia.org website and social media are used as tools to inspire, inform and accelerate positive change in schools and districts by highlighting evidence-based strategies and best practices. The website includes links to several guides for implementation, blogs, articles and related resources:
 - [Restorative Justice: Resources for Schools](#)
- **The Community Conferencing Center**
The Community Conferencing Center (CCC) is a conflict transformation and community justice organization that provides ways for people to safely, collectively and effectively prevent and resolve conflicts and crime. Information for schools includes resources on two evidence-based practices to prevent and respond to school conflict and violence. Helpful information for school leaders include:
 - [Community Conferencing, a restorative approach for schools](#)

Professional Development Resources

- **Webinar: Becoming a Restorative Leader**
A 45-minute webinar that will introduce how restorative leadership can facilitate a positive staff community and improve work performance. The webinar will detail how restorative leadership: 1) boosts employee engagement; 2) maximizes the potential of staff; 3) increases accountability; and 4) effectively confronts conflict and disappointments. This webinar is offered at no cost.
 - [Link to Webinar information and registration](#)
- **Webinar: Whole-School Change through Restorative Practices**
A 45-minute webinar that will introduce and detail the International Institute for Restorative

Practices (IIRP's) SaferSanerSchools Whole-School Change program. This program has been proven to be an effective way to achieve lasting whole-school culture change. This webinar is offered at no cost.

- [Link to Webinar information and registration](#)
- **PowerPoint and Handouts:** "Rise to the Challenge: Whole-school Implementation of Restorative Practices: It's Not "One More Thing". This information was presented at The 16th IIRP World Conference in 2013.
 - [PowerPoint Presentation by Suzanne M. McMurtray, Christina Krabitz, Laurie Scott-Bulka](#)
 - [Handout – Restorative Activities and Games](#)
 - [Handout – Successful Circles](#)
- **PowerPoint:** "Good Intentions Are Not Enough: The Science of Implementing High-quality Restorative Practices in Schools". This information was presented at The 16th IIRP World Conference in 2013.
 - [PowerPoint Presentation by Anne Gregory and Alycia Davis](#)
- **PowerPoint:** "Shifting Paradigms, Positive Behavioral Supports, Restorative Practices in an Urban High School in the Midwest". This information was presented at The 16th IIRP World Conference in 2013.
 - [PowerPoint Presentation by Jan L. Petersen and Rob Simon](#)

Additional Readings

- [RP - Observe Manual, January 2014. Gregory, A., Gerewitz, J., Clawson, K., Davis, A., Korth, J., Schotland, M.](#)
- [School-based restorative justice as an alternative to zero-tolerance policies: Lessons from West Oakland.](#)
- [International Institute for Restorative Practices \(2009\). Findings from schools implementing Restorative Practices.](#)
- [Bullying Prevention and the Restorative Approach, Chuck Saufier, 2009](#)