



Restorative Justice Practices Progress Update

Report for Lawrence Alliance for Education

January 8, 2020

Center for Restorative Justice – Suffolk University

- Restorative justice is a broad term encompassing a growing movement to commit to building communities in which all participants feel safe and valued.
- When harm is caused to the community, Restorative Practices embed productive approaches, which focus on problem-solving and repair.
- Restorative approaches seek to balance the needs of the victim, wrongdoer, and community through processes that preserve the safety and dignity of all.

Restorative Justice is a *flexible set of practices* that are adaptable to many purposes, enabling youth and adults to bring forward their "best self."

It is optimal to integrate restorative approaches into the daily practices of schools and organizations to establish a positive climate and build social and emotional skills through <u>Community Circles</u> before introducing restorative justice into situations of conflict and harm.

How are RJ Practices helpful in Schools?

- Classroom Climate & Relationship Building
- Teaching Curriculum
- IEP Meetings
- Classroom Problem-Solving
- Student Advisory & Social Emotional Learning
- Restorative Discipline
- Teacher-Student Dialogue
- Bullying Interventions
- Community Meetings/ TU VOZ Council
- Staff & Team Meetings



RJP for Lawrence Public Schools

2017-18

• ENLACE and RISE pilot initial Partnership with CRJ and develop models of excellence



2018-19

- Lawrence High School expands Level I PD with CRJ at Suffolk U
- AFT/District Partnership launch School Climate and Culture Steering Committee following attendance at Center for School Improvement Institute in NYC
- June 2019 Instructional Leadership Institute for ALL Principals led by CRJ and Great Schools
- Leaders create an action plan and consider readiness and supports needed for each school

RJP for Lawrence Public Schools

2019-20

- August School Leader Teams complete Level I training and Develop plans for engaging educators
- FALL: Full Faculty Level I Training at "ready" schools (2 full DAYS) Frost Elem, Hennessey, Leahy, LHS Grade 9, Oliver Partnership, Parthum Elem, Parthum Middle, South Law East Elem
- FALL: ALL Counselors complete Level I Training (2 full DAYS)
- FALL: Interested Schools include mindset PD with Great Schools Partnership - ARM, GES, GMS, BRU, ENL, CDA, TAR, WET, FRM, LEA, HLC, ROL, LFA, BRE, LAW, RISE
- SPRING: Full Faculty Level I Training at "ready" schools (2 full DAYS) *Guilmette Elem, Guilmette Middle, Tarbox, Wetherbee*

Expand Training to Additional Schools 2020-21

Examples of Excellence...

