

# Restorative Practices

## High School Restorative Practices

### Reflection Sheet: Family

The video explores two high schools' implementation of Restorative Practices. Use the following questions to reflect on the information presented and to frame your own thoughts about Restorative Practices.

- 1. In the beginning moments, the students discuss how circles create safety and inclusion. How did you observe them being used in this short film? What are the ways you have participated in or seen evidence of circles helping to create safety and inclusion?

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- 2. The principal of Dreamyard Preparatory High School, Alicia Wargo, talks about how teenagers go through turmoil and growth and how Restorative Practices help teenagers navigate turmoil and growth.
  - What turmoil has your child experienced?
  - What growth have you observed in your child?
  - How do you help them through each?
  - How do Restorative Practices support young people in this time of turmoil and growth?
  - If your child has participated in one of the Mediation practices, what does that tell you about your child's growth?

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3. The film shows three forms of mediation: Mediation (with a Teacher), Peer Mediation, and Fairness Meetings.
- How is respect modeled and implemented in each?
  - What do you think is the most powerful statement made by students about the different forms of mediation? Why?
  - How comfortable would you be with your child participating in any of the positions in a Fairness Meeting? Discuss your response.

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4. The principal of James Baldwin High School, Brady Smith, says that Restorative Practices are all about “being human.” He says that participating in Restorative Practices says, “I want to understand you and make this right.” How do these statements relate to you as a parent?

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5. He also says that Restorative Practices help people “be safe and comfortable enough and thoughtful enough to re-engage with that part of them that knows the solution is to repair.”
- What does it mean “to repair”?
  - After watching this film, think about what it would take to help you feel safe and comfortable and thoughtful enough to participate in one of the circles or a mediation with your child. Explain your thoughts.

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6. Comment on how the word “respect” is repeated through this film. What does that say to you about Restorative Practices?

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7. What else do you want to know about Restorative Practices in your child’s school? How do you feel or would you feel about your child participating in these programs in school? Explain your answer.

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