

A Rock and a Rug:
Restorative Practices and it uses
throughout K-12 spaces

Robert Spicer, Ph.D
Restorative Strategies, LLC

A Rock and Rug: My Journey



Remember . . .



Rev. Dr. R. Spicer

@Rev_DrSpicer

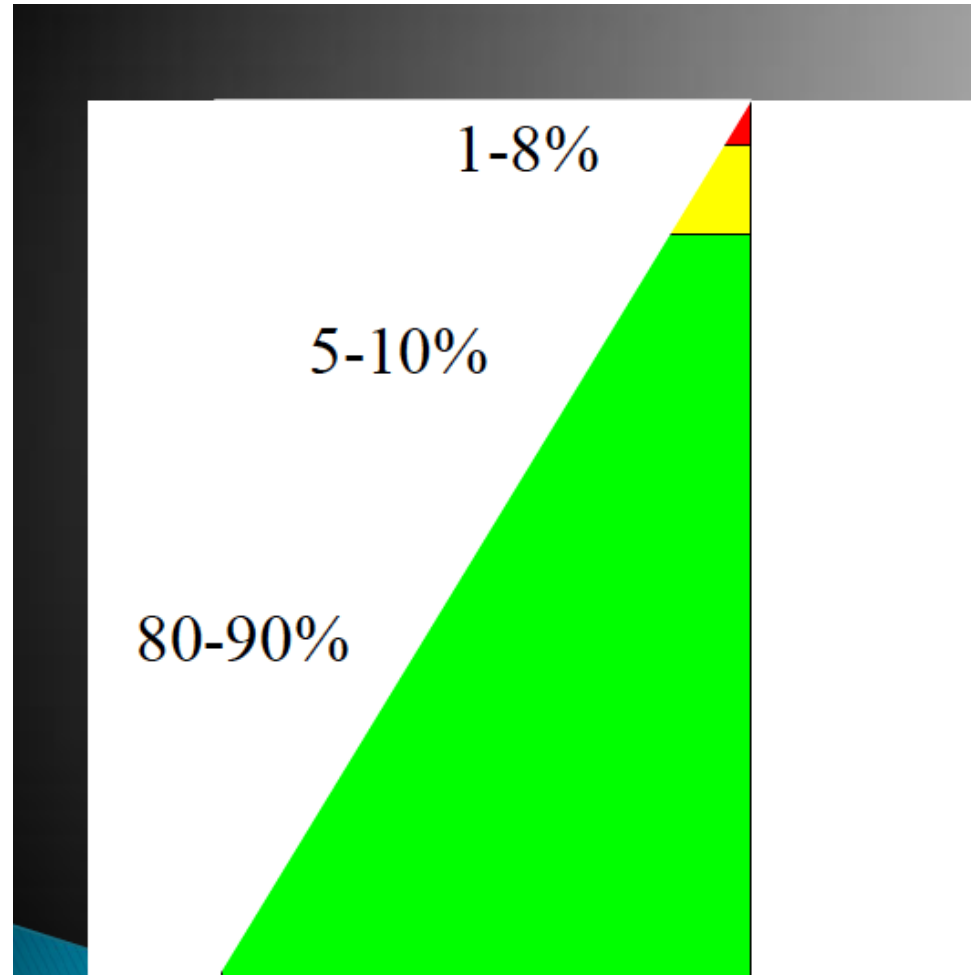


In the next few weeks, the next great orator, Doctor, singer, artist, mother, father, pianist, architect, scholar, comedian, entrepreneur, journalist, pastor, author, politician, President . . will be in your classroom! Feed them, nourish them, love them. [#freedomtolove](#)

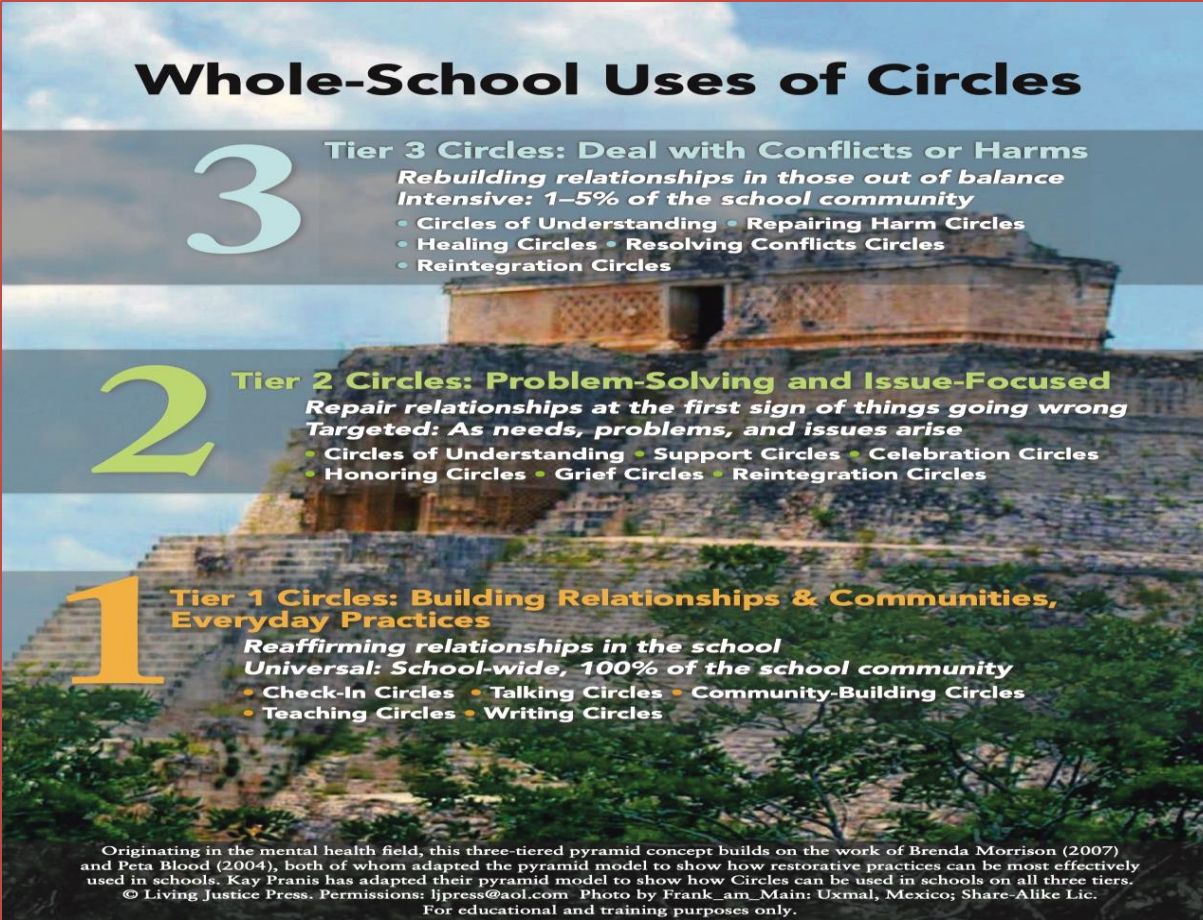
How can Restorative Practices be expressed in K-5?



Response to Intervention(RTI)



As an Educator interested in using these practices, think Whole Classroom-Whole School



Whole-School Uses of Circles

3 **Tier 3 Circles: Deal with Conflicts or Harms**
Rebuilding relationships in those out of balance
Intensive: 1–5% of the school community

- Circles of Understanding
- Repairing Harm Circles
- Healing Circles
- Resolving Conflicts Circles
- Reintegration Circles

2 **Tier 2 Circles: Problem-Solving and Issue-Focused**
Repair relationships at the first sign of things going wrong
Targeted: As needs, problems, and issues arise

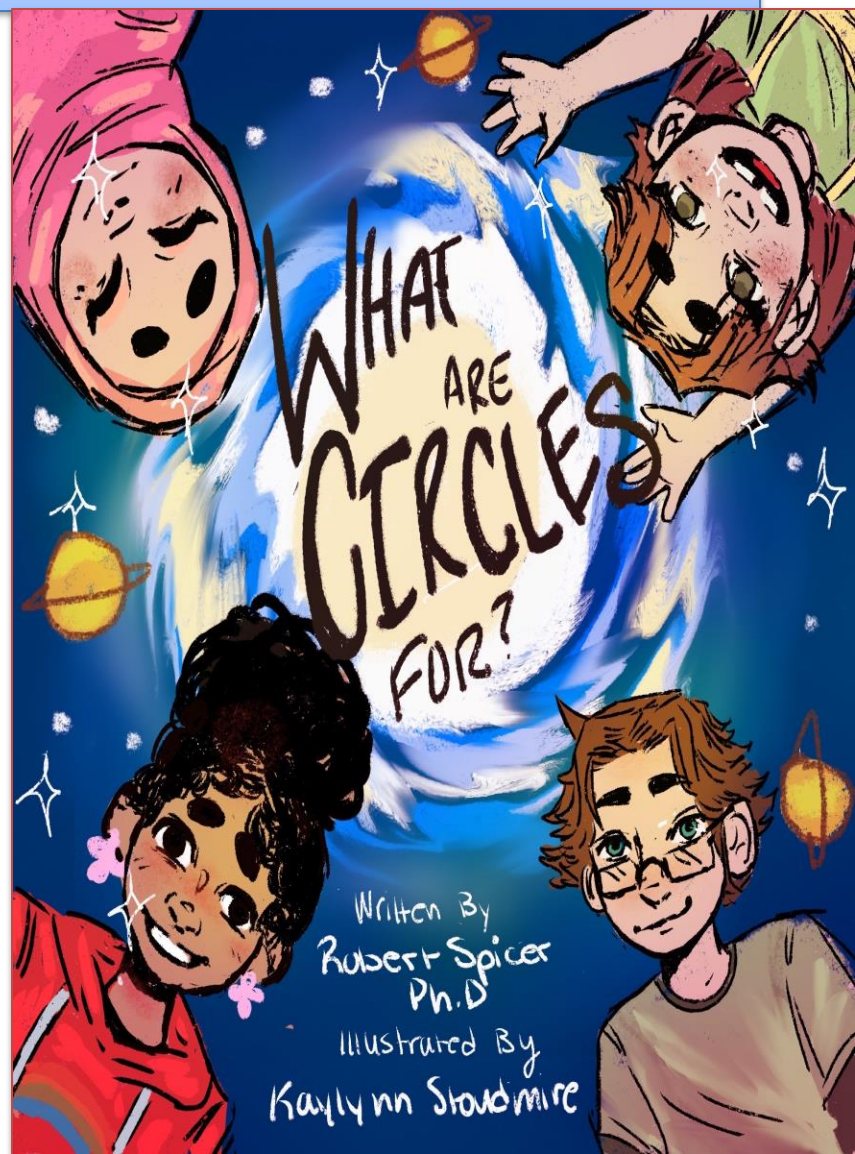
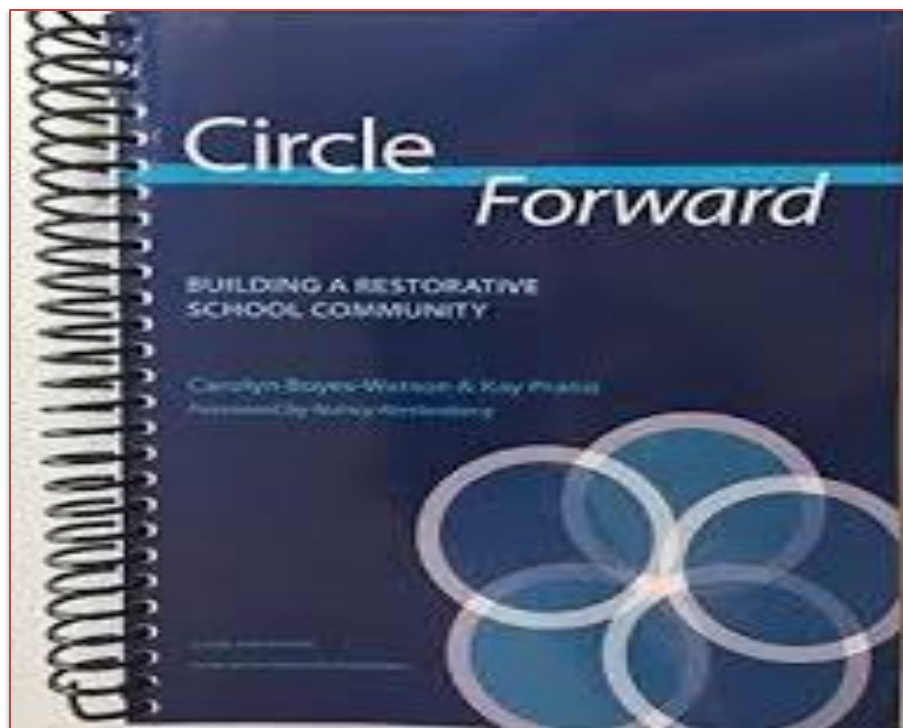
- Circles of Understanding
- Support Circles
- Celebration Circles
- Honoring Circles
- Grief Circles
- Reintegration Circles

1 **Tier 1 Circles: Building Relationships & Communities, Everyday Practices**
Reaffirming relationships in the school
Universal: School-wide, 100% of the school community

- Check-In Circles
- Talking Circles
- Community-Building Circles
- Teaching Circles
- Writing Circles

Originating in the mental health field, this three-tiered pyramid concept builds on the work of Brenda Morrison (2007) and Peta Blood (2004), both of whom adapted the pyramid model to show how restorative practices can be most effectively used in schools. Kay Pranis has adapted their pyramid model to show how Circles can be used in schools on all three tiers.
© Living Justice Press. Permissions: ljpress@aol.com Photo by Frank_am_Main: Uxmal, Mexico; Share-Alike Lic.
For educational and training purposes only.

From an Academic Lens, imbedding restorative practices during your read time and writing prompt gets two birds with one rock.



Circle Prompts or Writing Prompts

- Question –What did you learn from this activity?
- Question 2-What can this activity teach you about Community Building? Or making new friends, or sharing with each other or working together to complete a project?

Relationship Building Wheel



Creating a Restorative Culture and Climate Plan is not easy.

"It may seem difficult at first,
but everything is difficult at first."

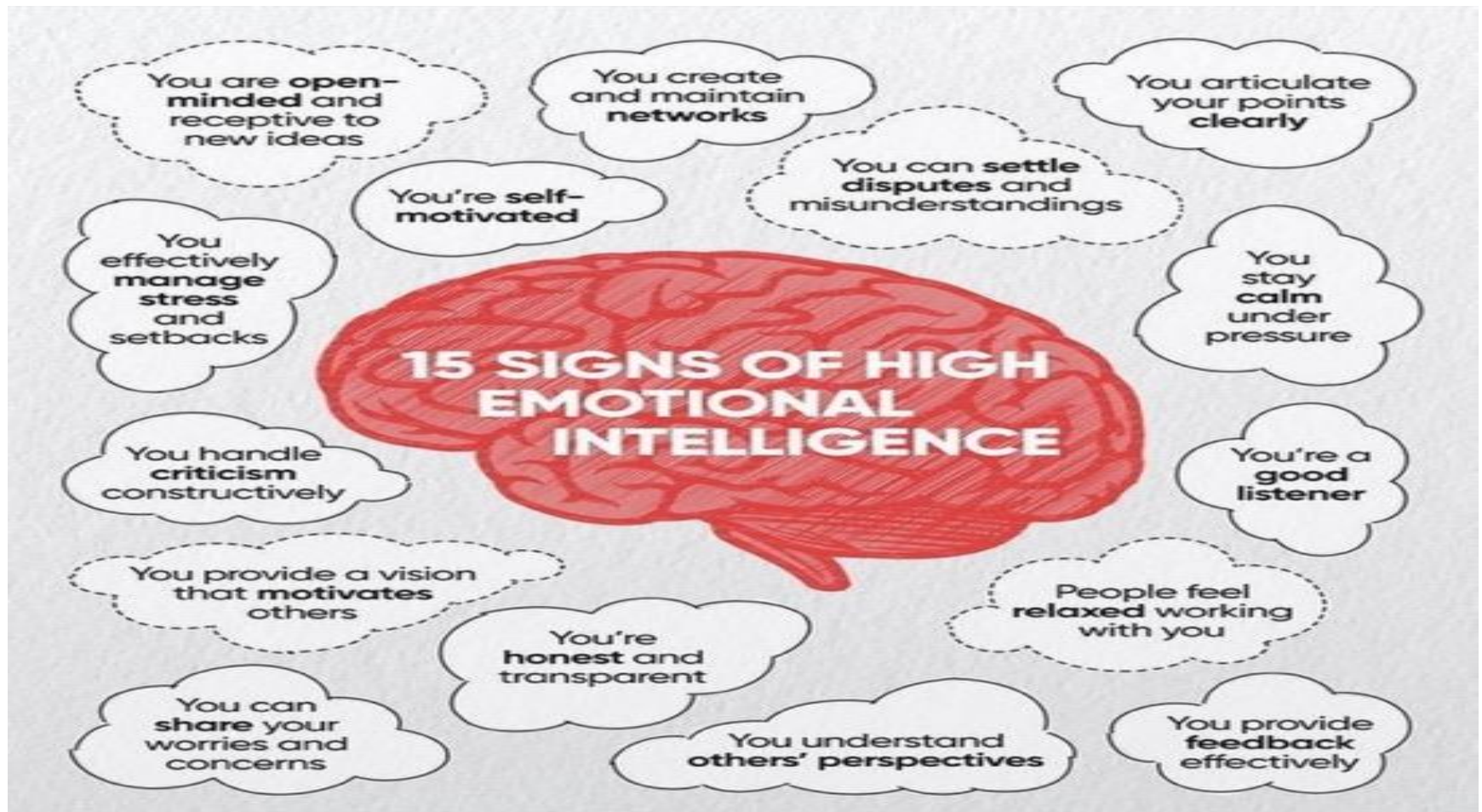
Miyamoto Musashi

DAILYPHILOSOPHER.NET

This is Zero Tolerance!!



Observing and Cultivating Emotional Intelligence in your students K-5



Thought for today

“ EQUINIX CONNECT 2021
Good things come
from bad things. With
gratitude, optimism is
sustainable.”

Michael J. Fox

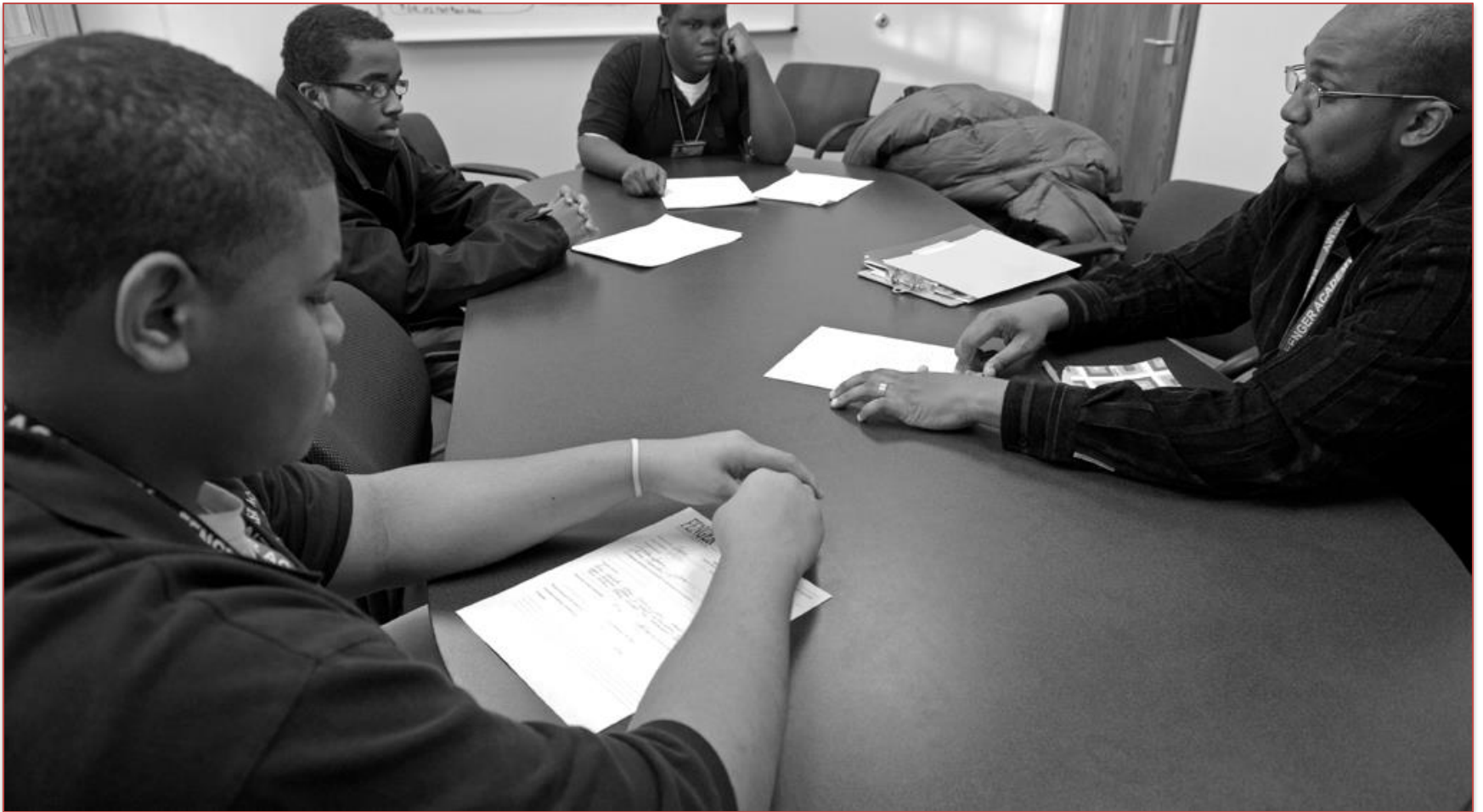
Actor, Author, Humanitarian



Questions? Joys? Concerns?



How can Restorative Practices be expressed in the 6th-12th grades



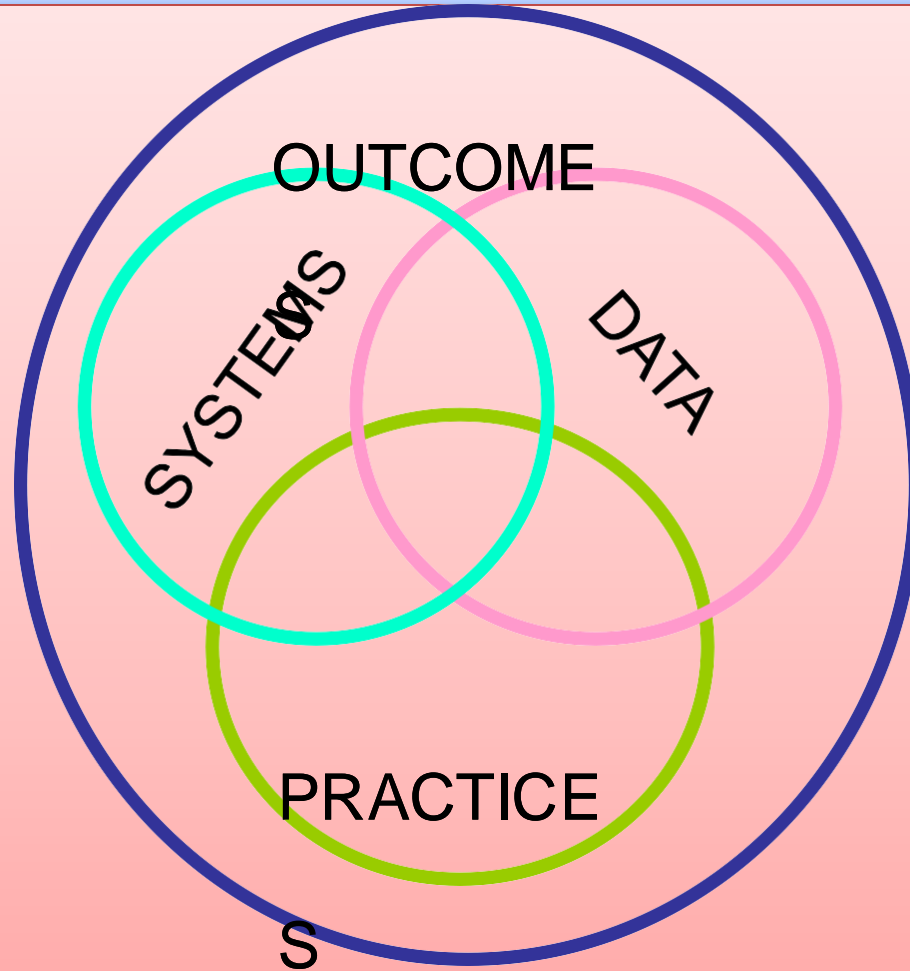
Creating a Culture with students leading the way toward Peace

- <https://youtu.be/Y1nKs0WXOyk>

Restorative Systems in Schools

- Culture and Climate Coordinator position and or team
- Peace Room
- Restorative Conferences
- Family Group conference
- Circles
- Peer Ambassadors
- Social Emotional Curriculum
- Model, Coach and Support Teachers and staff in the implementation of the S.E.L./Restorative Curriculum

RJP Systems in Schools



What you do not measure, you can not fix!!

DATA



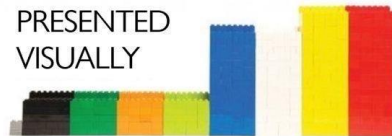
SORTED



ARRANGED



PRESENTED VISUALLY



EXPLAINED WITH A STORY



Chopping Wood and Carrying Water

By Joshua Medcalf

- Restorative Leaders need **persistence** and **focus**; mastery is your main attribute
- **Discouragement** keeps many people from achieving goals. How do you inoculate yourself from this? **Enthusiasm!**
- **Failure** is intrinsic to the journey of success; the key is to keep going despite it.

Creating a Culture of Calm and Caring



Remember???

- The Culture of a School is what we **Practice, Promote, and Permit.**

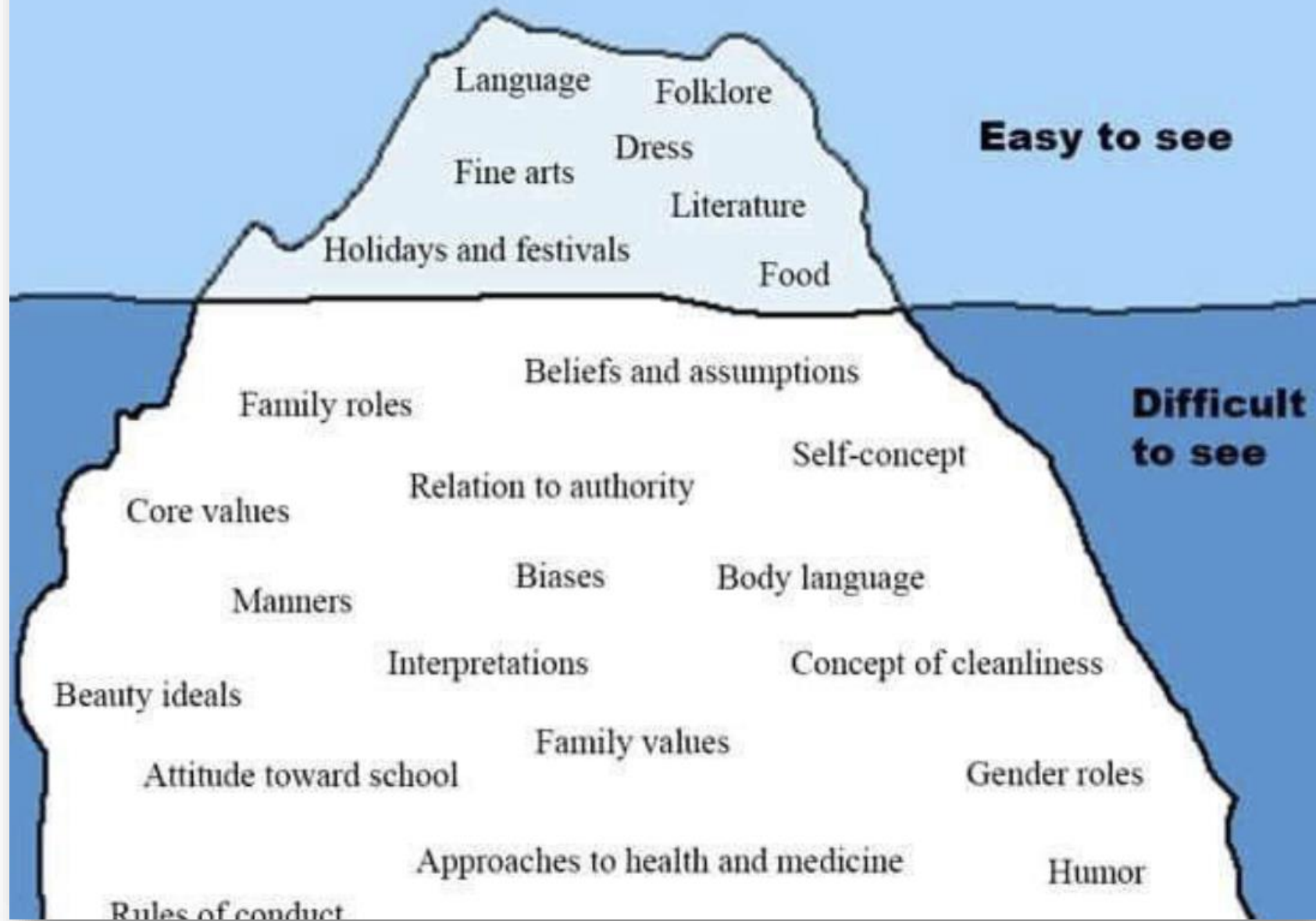
Remember???

- The Climate of a school is how our school makes us **FEEL**.

“A School’s Culture determines its Climate”.

Nicolle Hayes, SCSD Director of School Culture and Climate

The Cultural Iceberg



Restorative School Procedures

- ❖ Restorative Practices take ***time and space***. In order to create a sustainable and predictable environment, ***well planned procedures are essential***.
- ❖ Not only do procedures make it more likely that students will make ***positive behavior choices***, they also create space for teachers and staff to have ***the one-on-one conversations*** necessary for a restorative approach.

Examples of Restorative Procedures

- Procedure for completing a student reflection sheet
- Procedure for practicing and delivering apologies
- Procedures or protocol for classroom problem-solving
- Procedure for requesting time in the take-a-break area
- Procedure or Protocol for student-to-student conversations
- Procedure for Re-Entry after classroom behavior incident

Classroom/School-wide RJ Structures

- A private space for one-on-one conversations between teachers/staff and students ie. Peace Room
- A private space for student reflection
- A space and/or procedure for the whole class to come together or Circle up for proactive and reactive rj responses
- Anchor posters that remind students of key procedures, expectations or common language used when resolving conflict or solving problems

The Restorative Conversation

- ❑ Facilitate student reflection of the incident
 - Use open-minded question
 - Non-judgmental questions
 - Use these statements to facilitate student reflection

The Restorative Conversation

Discuss student needs and plan to address needs

- The educator helps students identify unmet needs that may have triggered the behavior
- Student identifies area of skill development and/or support that would result in an improved response in the future

The Restorative Conversation

☐ Plan to Restore Relationships

- Help student identify how their actions impact others
- Create a plan for restoring the harm they caused

Remain Calm!!

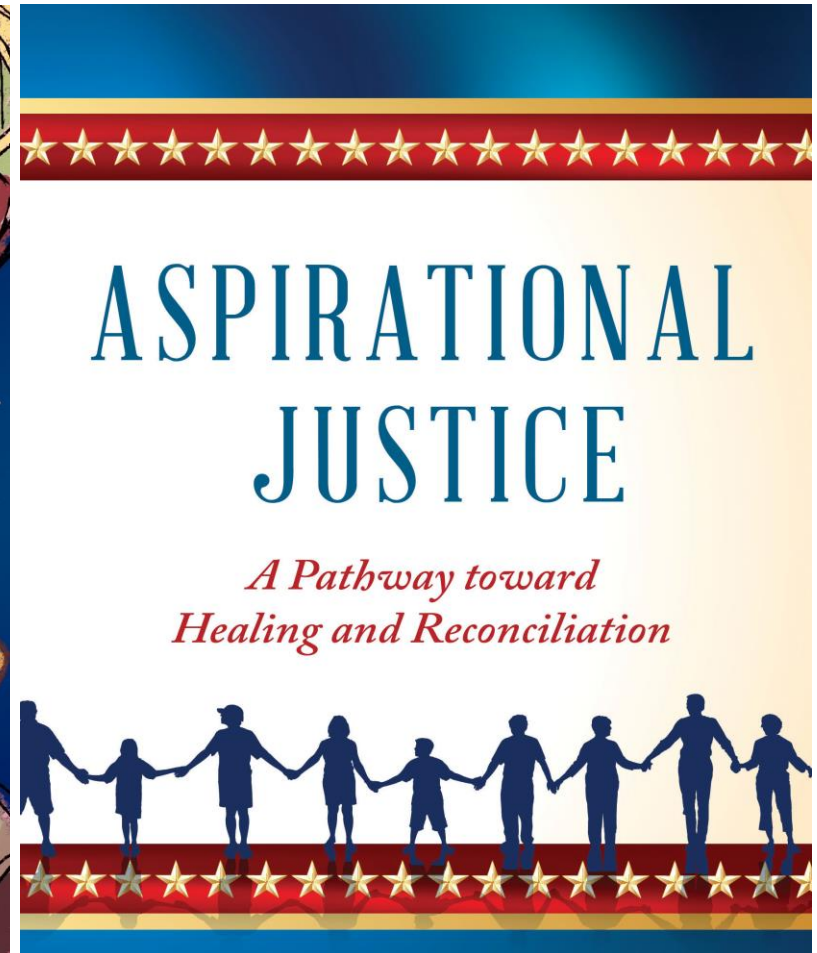
Very Important

- **Maintaining Calm Throughout the Restorative Conversation**
- Educators should strive to stay consistently calm, neutral, and positive throughout a restorative conversation. The conversation should not be used as an extended consequence or lecture, and its focus should remain on helping the student problem-solve and build skills. ***This can be a challenging endeavor in the face of day-to-day classroom stressors and behaviors that trigger emotional responses.*** It is essential that teachers check in with themselves and use metacognitive strategies such as ***self-talk, revisiting mindsets or intentions, taking a deep breath,*** and ***knowing how to select the right time for the conversation.*** If the teacher and/or the student is still in an emotionally charged state, the restorative conversation should be **put on hold**. By taking time to keep themselves calm, educators can provide powerful models of emotional regulation for students. (The 72 Hour Rule)

Questions, Comments, Concerns

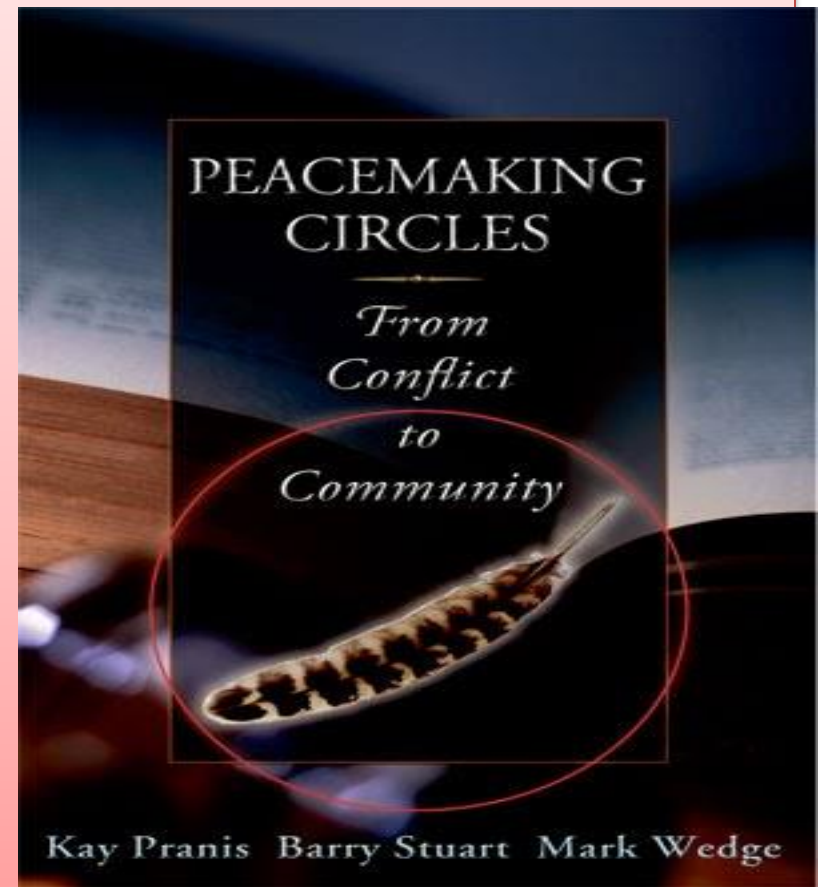
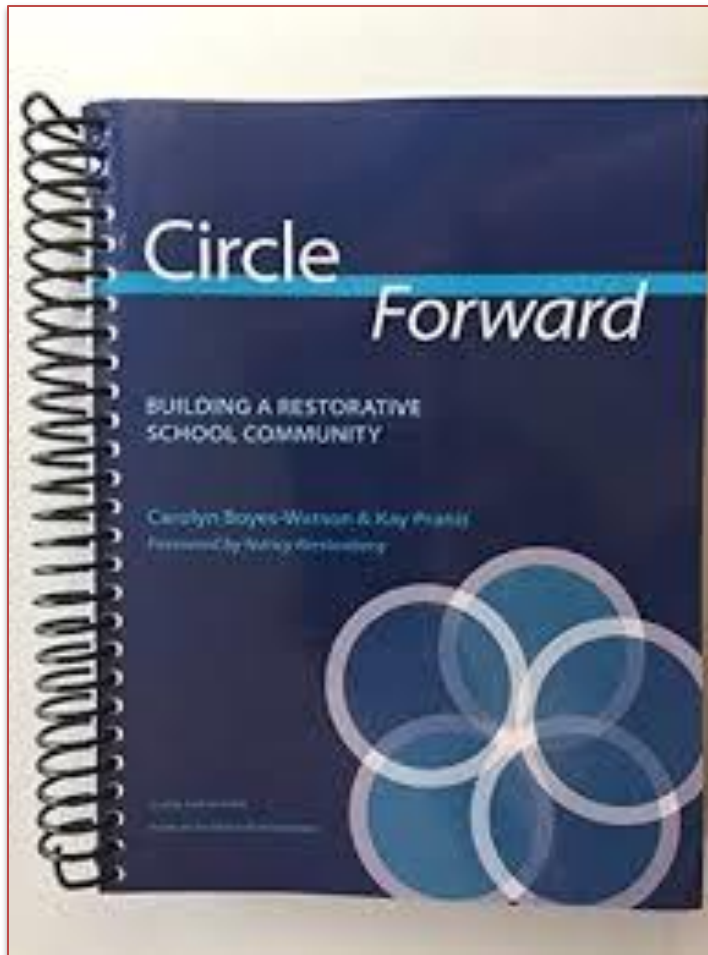


Resources



REV. DR. ROBERT A. SPICER, SR.

Books



Thank you!!!!



**RESTORATIVE
STRATEGIES. LLC**

Thank you from Restorative Strategies, LLC

Restorative Strategies, LLC

Dr. Robert Andre' Spicer Sr., CEO

mrraspicer@gmail.com

www.restorativestrategies.expert

www.aspirationaljustice.com

Author of Aspirational Justice and What are Circles for?

Both books are on the Amazon and Barnes and Noble

Follow us on all Social Media for more on Restorative Strategies!!

X: @Rev_DrSpicer

FB: Rev. Dr. Robert Spicer