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Restorative Justice Scoop



MS447
THE EXPLORATORY SCHOOL

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RJ FAMILY WORKSHOP- RECAP:

🌐 RJ Family Workshop #1: Interconnection *check out the workshop slidedeck here

“But if we want to create a world in which conflict and trauma aren’t the center of our collective existence, we have to practice something new, ask different questions, access again our curiosity about each other as a species.” adrienne maree brown

“Restorative practices are a set of **processes and tools** that help us **create a caring school community** and **keep that community whole**. The premise is that **people and relationships** are valued first and foremost. When people make mistakes or cause harm, restorative practices can help them to **understand the impact of their actions**, **heal the harm**, and **restore the community**.”

Components of Restorative Justice in Education include:

- creating just and equitable learning environments
- nurturing healthy relationships
- repairing harm and transforming conflict

These components come from the core beliefs that people are **worthy** and **relational** and are rooted in values of respect, dignity, and mutual concern.

Resources:

[Places and Spaces for Belonging](#).(document with clubs, teams, and activities to join)

[Morningside Center for Teaching Social Responsibility](#).

[Amplify RJ](#)

Video: [Intro. To RJ](#)

[This Restorative Justice Life podcast](#)

[NYC Dept of Ed RJ information](#)

[The Civil Rights Project](#)

[Chalkbeat article on RJ in NYC schools](#)

[Center for Court innovation RJ podcast](#)

[Learning for Justice: Humanity, Healing, and Doing the Work](#)

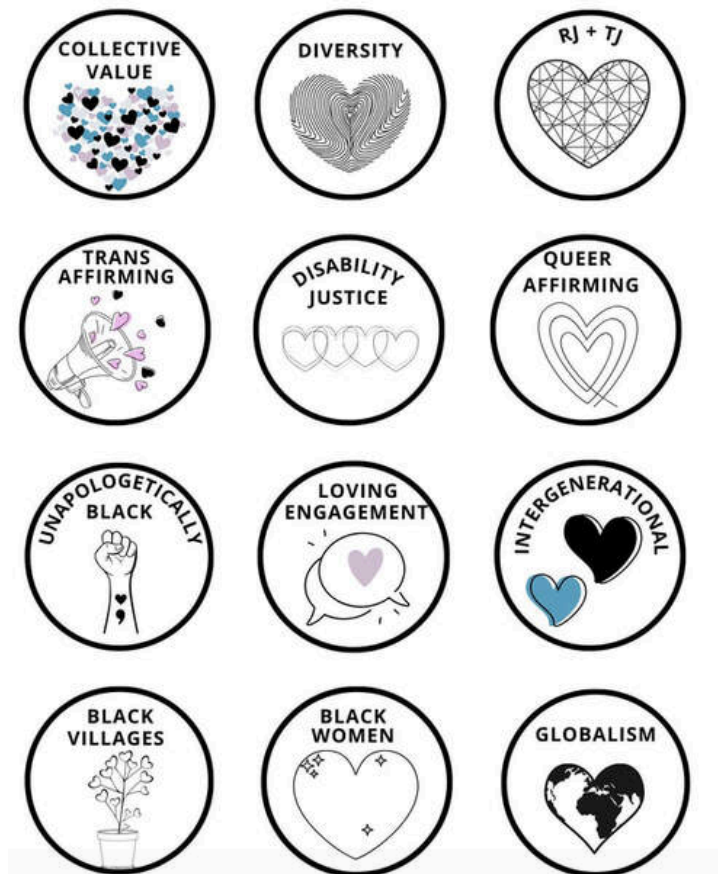
RJ Book Discussion Group: For Grown-Ups at home

Are you interested in joining a reading/thought discussion group focused on Restorative Practices and living restoratively? Please let Joy know at jcanning@ms447.org . In the Subject Line write **RJ Book Discussion Group**.

Our first selection is ***Talking Stick - Peacemaking as a Spiritual Path*** by Stephan V. Beyer. This book is a practice for deeper relationships, personal growth, and connection to nature. ***Talking Stick*** presents an opportunity to establish deeper connections with others. By learning to speak honestly and listen devoutly, we can overcome our culture's hierarchical and punitive approach to conflict and relate to each other in a sacred manner that is egalitarian, liberating, and transformational. The book explains how to apply this practice with large and small groups and on an interpersonal level. It focuses on deepening relationships, healing old wounds, and restoring harmony among people. Join us as we work toward living restoratively together. **Those who express interest will work together to determine best time and place for the monthly discussions.**

BLM At Schools WEEK OF ACTION, YEAR OF PURPOSE, LIFETIME OF PRACTICE

The Black Lives Matter at School movement is guided by the following principles. We seek to expand our community's understanding of these principles through the Week of Action and Year of Purpose. This year's Week of Action is **February 3-7**, we are extending this focus throughout February as we recognize Black History Month and celebrate Black Lives and Black culture at 447. And our desire is that collectively we can grow a lifetime of loving, valuing, dignifying, and uplifting practice together. Stay tuned for a BLM at Schools Week of Action, Year of Purpose calendar of activities and events.



Little Justice Leaders: Hate = Harm

*Homophobia isn't an opinion. Transphobia isn't an opinion. Racism isn't an opinion. Xenophobia isn't an opinion. Hate Speech isn't an opinion. Prejudices aren't opinions. Sexism isn't an opinion. Hate doesn't equal opinion. **Hate equals Harm.*** 🌐 Little Justice Leaders



At MS447 we are committed to disrupting and dismantling the existence of inequity within our sphere of influence. This year we have adopted an anti-bullying/anti-hatespeech protocol “**Call It QUILTS**”. This acronym stands for **Q** - **question**, ask questions to the person saying something hateful, “Do you understand what that word means?” or “What did you mean when you said that?” **U** - **unite**, come together to address bullying and hatespeech, it takes all of us. **I** - **Interrupt**, say “hey - that’s a slur” or “hey-that’s not okay” or “you know that word hurts me or is hurtful”. **T** - **teach**, “Let me tell you the history of that word and why it is hurtful.” and **S** -**share/spread**, encourage other adults and students to join in with calling it quits. This work grew out of our CoCreate lunchtime student voice groups. We are committed to continuing in this work as students reflect on this protocol, recognizing that it can’t just live on the walls of our hallways and classrooms, but has to be an **ACTION** we all take together! Students are thinking about what’s next, how do we **implement Call It Quits** in bigger ways that truly interrupt and disrupt inequity?

The work is daily!