

Using Restorative Practices to Respond to Harm

Presenters: Annie O'Shaughnessy, M.Ed in Mindfulness
with Lisa Bedinger, the Director of the South Burlington Community Justice Center

Target Audience: All K-12 Educators, Leaders, Behavior Coaches and Planning Room teachers

The "Zero Tolerance" policies put into place in the 1990s to combat school violence, blossomed into rigid exclusionary discipline policies for many different student behaviors from tobacco, weapon, and drug possession to vandalism and disrespect. While suspension and expulsion rates rose, the policies did not have the intended effect of making schools safer and more supportive places to learn. In fact, as stated in Vermont's Agency of Education resource book on restorative practices, "Trying to achieve safe school environments that promote learning through compliance and exclusion have been ineffective and such efforts have disproportionately negatively affected specific populations that are typically marginalized".

The current popularity of restorative practices in schools has risen up out of the need for an alternative to exclusionary discipline policies. From the VT AOE guide: "Restorative approaches promote social engagement and connection (1) proactively to build community and connection (Tier I), (2) when things go wrong and relationship need repair (Tier II), and (3) when an individual needs more intensive support to feel a sense of belonging (Tier III). Research shows a clear connection between outcomes and students' sense of connection, belonging, and being part of the school community". This workshop explores Tier 2 processes—how to respond to harm in schools in a variety of restorative ways.

Achievable Outcomes:

- Examine how we know we are ready for Tier 2 work—when to proceed, when not to and why.
- Explore what is the right process and why—restorative "chat" or conversation, circle, conference.
- Practice and debrief all of three processes.

About our Presenter: Annie O'Shaughnessy has taught since 1990 in public, alternative and therapeutic settings. She pursued her M.Ed. in Mindfulness for Educators in 2016 and has taught in multiple settings, both workshops and classes throughout Vermont.



Dates:
May 17, 2019

Hours:
8:30 registration
9:00-3:30 (light breakfast and lunch included)

Location:
Hampton Event Center
Colchester, VT

Cost:
CVEDC members \$200
Non - members \$225

Includes: Resource Binder

To Register: www.cvedcvt.org

Questions? info@cvedcvt.org

Or call: 802-497-1642



Are you a CVEDC Member?
All schools in Addison, Chittenden,
Grand Isle and Franklin Counties
are members.