



Restorative Practices for Critical Thinking

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Journey to Restorative Practice

- What is Critical Thinking?
- The Restorative Framework
- Key Elements of Restorative Practice
 - Restorative Questions
 - Circles
- How Circle Talk Improves Critical Thinking





Critical Thinking

"The unexamined life is not worth living" -Socrates

- Self-guided, self-disciplined thinking
- Fair minded thinking
- Thinking that promotes intellectual integrity
 - personal humility,
 - empathy,
- Develops a sense of justice and confidence in reason
- Recognizes mistakes in reasoning





A well-cultivated critical thinker:

- Raises vital questions and problems
- Gathers and assesses relevant information
- Comes to well-reasoned conclusions
- Thinks open-mindedly
- Communicates effectively with others to solve problems







Restorative Framework

1. Good relationships are the basis for learning and growth
2. Anything that affects relationships (such as inappropriate or hurtful behaviour) impacts on learning and growth
3. Challenging, inappropriate or harmful behaviour needs to be experienced as an opportunity for learning and growth



Restorative Practice Definition

Restorative Practices are a framework for :
**building community and
for responding to challenging behaviour through**

- authentic dialogue,
- coming to understanding,
- and making things right.
-

-IIRP



Creating Authentic Dialogue

- Requires an atmosphere of trust and vulnerability
- Students learn to express ideas and to respectfully challenge and test one another's ideas
- Different perspectives and approaches to problems are encouraged
- Knowledge base of the circle is greater than the sum of individual contributions alone.



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FUTURE



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Paradigm Shift

ADVERSARIAL/PUNITIVE

What rule was broken?

Who is to blame?

What punishment does the
offender deserve?

RESTORATIVE

Who was harmed?

What harm resulted?

What needs to be done to
make things right?





Restorative Questions (Person Causing Harm)

- What happened?
- What were you thinking at the time?
- What have you thought about since?
- Who has been affected by what you did?
In what way?
- What do you think you need to do to make things right?





Restorative Questions (Person Harmed)

- What did you think when you realized what had happened?
- What impact has this incident had on you and others?
- What has been the hardest thing for you?
- What do you think needs to happen to make things right?





Practice

Roles:

Alex, Chris, Facilitator

Scenario:

Alex has complained to the facilitator that ever since (s)he got braces Chris has been mocking her(him)





Practice

Roles:

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Scenario:

Alex complains that Chris has been hogging the ball on the soccer field and does not play by the rules.





Practice

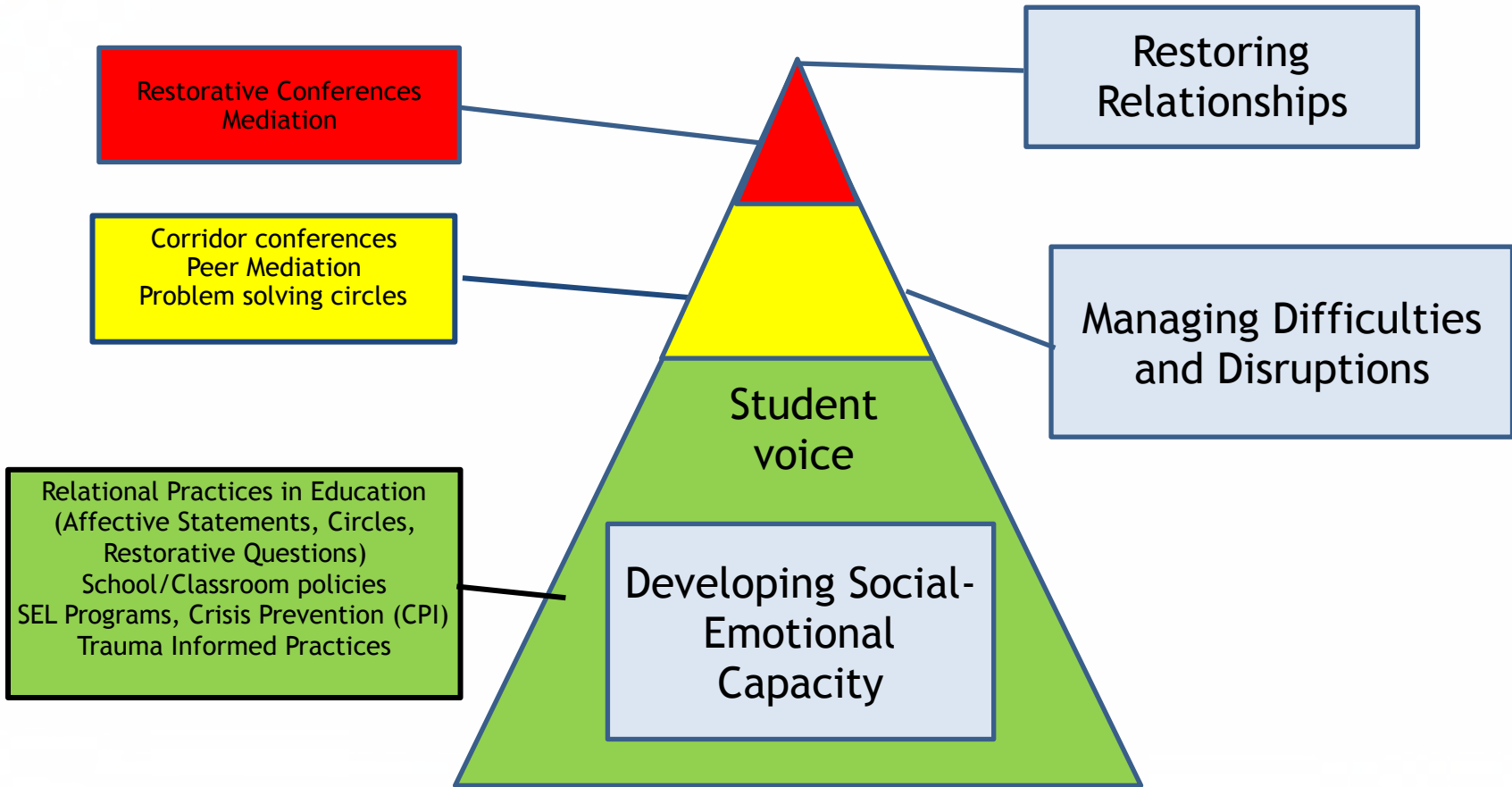
Roles:

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Scenario:

Alex and Chris are yelling at one another.
Alex is mad at Chris because Chris took
Alex's phone.







Role of circles

1. Check In and Check Out
2. Building community
3. Having fun together
4. Learning how to have a conversation
5. Storytelling
6. Problem Solving
7. Celebrating special events
8. Restorative conferences





Basic Circle Elements

1. Only the person with the Talking Piece can talk
2. No put downs
3. The Talking Piece moves always moves clockwise
4. You can pass or ask for a friend to help
5. Speak just enough and to the centre of the Circle





Having fun together

1. Names race
2. Odds and Evens & Stand up and change places
3. Fizz Buzz
4. What other circle games can you teach the group?
5. RECAP: One thing I learned from this circle....





Learning to Converse

Mystery Object

Person 1 makes a guess

Person 2

1. Affirm contribution...
2. Beg to differ...
3. Make a guess

How could you help your students to improve their conversation skills in a circle?





Storytelling Circle

1. Says what the character was **thinking**
2. Continues with how the person **felt** at the time
3. Adds **what the person does** as a result of the thoughts & feelings
4. Adds **something new or unexpected**





Problem solving circles

Instruct the group that they must build the tallest tower that they possibly can, using only the paper given to them. No tape, gum, paper clips, etc. allowed.

Circle Questions:

- What did you notice about how the group worked together?
- What did you find frustrating about this exercise?
- As a member of the team, what role did you take on in this activity?
- I need to use teamwork everyday when...
- What academic problems could you introduce in a circle?
- What are some behaviour problems you have experienced that could be solved using circle talk?





TALK

gives students opportunities to...

- Organize their thinking
- Gather and process information
- Make connections with prior experiences
- Express thoughts, feelings and points of view
- Collaborate to solve problems and make decisions
- Expand on their own thinking, as well as the thinking of others
- Present their findings and express their ideas





References

- An Introduction to Restorative Practices <https://vimeo.com/159431581>
- Teaching Restorative Practices in the Classroom 7 lesson Curriculum.pdf <https://goo.gl/HGVyz9>
- Restorative Practices and San Francisco Public Schools <https://vimeo.com/47159849?ref=em-v-share>
- Ripples of Relationship-Restorative Justice in Education <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iFFd8X-wuGA&feature=youtu.be>





References

- http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/literacynumeracy/inspire/research/CBS_InquiryBased.pdf
- <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/literacynumeracy>
- https://thelearningexchange.ca/wp-content/uploads/2011/11/EffectiveQuestions.pdf/inspire/research/CBS_StudentInquiry.pdf





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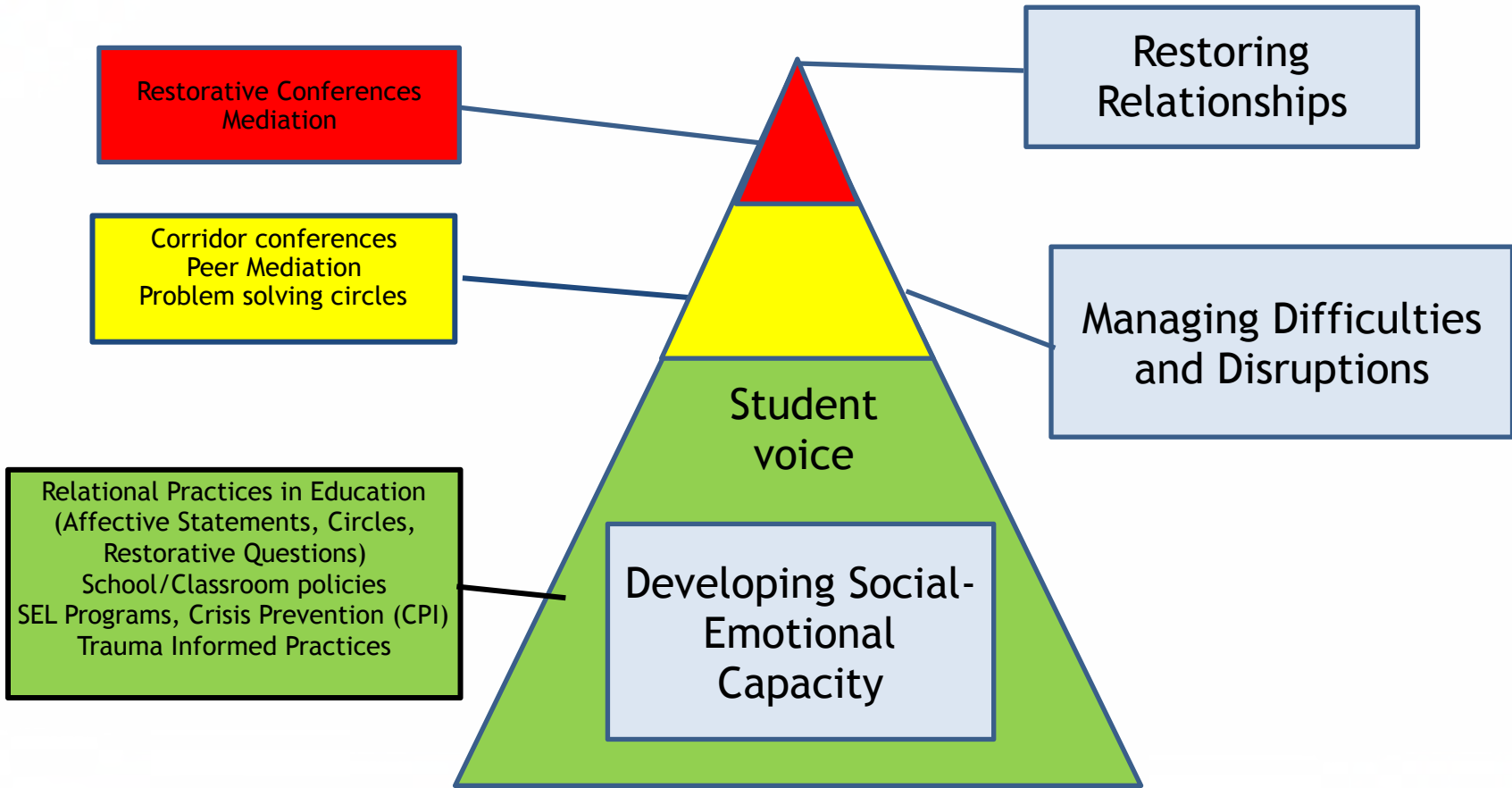
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