



POMS

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**New Mexico
Public Schools
Insurance
Authority**

Restorative Practices Overview

Increasing Student Success and Reducing Violence Through Relational Learning

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What are Restorative Practices?

Restorative Practices:

A *philosophy*, not a curriculum or program, that focuses on building positive relationships and providing opportunities for community members to take responsibility for their behavior and their lives.

At the heart of restorative practices is the belief that we are all in this together and that we are part of a supportive community.

Gives victim a voice

Identifies motivation
and impact of action

Teaches alternative
behaviors

Repairs damage done

Builds empathy

What You Don't See.....

The Invisible backpack



1. Physical Abuse
2. Emotional abuse
3. Sexual abuse
4. Physical neglect
5. Emotional neglect
6. Witness to violence
7. Incarcerated relative
8. Substance abuse exposure
9. Mental health in home
10. Divorce



10 adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) linked to every major chronic illness and social issue in our country

WE HAVE TO KNOW WHAT IS IN THE *INVISIBLE* BACKPACK. THIS ENTERS YOUR BUILDING EVERYDAY!

Why Restorative Practices?

Restorative practices are not just a new way of discipline; they are prevention strategies.

“A person whose basic needs are being met is far less likely to engage in violent behavior”

“Group Violence Intervention: An Implementation Guide.”
National Network for Safe Communities.



We always focus on RESPONSE!

**If we don't
know our kids,
how can we
possibly see
the warning
signs?**

PREVENTION

"Most people who commit an act of violence make threats far in advance of any action."

RESPONSE

"Some people leap to dubious ideas, like bulletproof backpacks and arming teachers, when in fact our energy and resources are better spent dealing with less sensational everyday problems like bullying, or mental health issues like depression."

-Dewey Cornell

Physical Security MATTERS, but we must see trouble coming!



Most threats to schools come from within. Predators in schools are often students, so they are not only invited into our schools but they are expected to be there.

Impacts of Restorative Practices In Schools

Top Three Pillars of School Safety

- Relationships
- Culture
- Climate

Positive Outcomes

- Increased graduation rates
- Reduction in behavioral incidents
- Student voice
- Harm reduction
- Less absenteeism