

Community Circle/Restorative Justice Rollout Timeline

Q1 (September – November)	Q2 (December – February)	Next Steps
<p>Training (Summer): Representatives from school attended a community building circle training through the California Conference for Equality and Justice (CCEJ).</p> <p>Planning: Appoint coordinators give a professional development (full-day). The agenda could include: Looking over the Oakland case study, differentiate between community circles and council, develop common language, next steps.</p> <p>Task Force (September/October): Form a mixed-panel team (Task Force) to strategically develop, plan and roll out community building circles at your site. This task force should have representatives from a diverse group of staff members.</p>	<p>Task Force Planning Meeting #1 (half-day): All task-force meetings begin with a community building circle. Plan data collection of circles, work time to create sample circle guides, decide PD calendar,</p> <p>Staff PD #1 (December): Teachers, office staff, TAs, Campus Aids participate in circles (5-8 in each circle). California Justice for Equity and Justice (CCEJ) representative presents on the theory, and Restorative Justice practices to staff.</p> <p>Before winter break we held a 1 ½ hour community circle.</p> <p>Staff PDs: All PDs begin with a community building circle (20-25 min). Circle keepers rotate facilitating with another teacher/staff member.</p> <p>RJ Planning Meeting #2 (half-day): Plan for next staff PD.</p> <p>Staff PD #2 (January): Community Building Circle, review Purpose of Community Building, videos of CBCs in the classroom, Q & A, circle planning time for teachers, official “roll-out” of community building circles.</p> <p>RJ Planning Meeting #3: Plan for PPP Presentation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • February 27th, 28th and March 1st – Harm and Conflict Circle Training for 4 members of the Task Force. • RJ Task Force planning meeting #3 (half-day) • Staff PD # 3 • Hold Circle at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Parent Conferences ○ Parent Workshops • Pursue Harm and Conflict Training for Task Force and then train staff. • Put systems in place to support teachers with community building in the classroom. • Plan “official” roll-out of RJ practices to parents and community.

*Dean began to explore Harm and Conflict Circles and more in-depth training is scheduled for February.

*Teachers begin to hold Community Circles during House on a weekly basis. Official transition from Council to Community Building circles happens in at the Staff PD #2.

Building Stronger Schools through Circles: A Restorative Justice Based Approach to Community Building

Restorative Justice is a set of principles and practices centered on promoting respect, taking responsibility, and strengthening relationships. Through community building circles it is possible to create a classroom where respect is increased, discord is minimized and problems are handled in a way that supports the growth of individuals and strengthens the larger school community. Restorative Justice invites a shift in the way we think about and do justice, from punishing individuals after wrongdoing to repairing harm and preventing its re-occurrence. Come and experience the power of the circle, the theory behind these practices and walk away with resources to take this transformative approach to your communities.

Agenda:

Welcome/Introduction (10 min)

Circle as a Part of Restorative Justice (5 min)

Community Building Circle Experience (30 min)

Community Building Circle Video (10 min)

Q & A (10 min)

Closing (5 min)