

Principles of Restorative Action

- 1. Invite full participation and consensus.** Provide an opportunity for dialogue between all those who have been harmed or who have caused harm. Outcomes decided upon must feel fair and reasonable to all participants.
- 2. Seek full and direct accountability.** In cases where certain individuals are responsible for causing harm, those people will be held accountable for their actions and appropriate reparation will be expected.
- 3. Heal what has been broken.** A restorative response seeks to address the harms resulting from a conflict and do what is possible to help heal any and all those affected.
- 4. Reintegrate where there has been division.** Conflict can create outcasts, alienation and distrust in the school community. Where possible, restorative action will help with reintegration and repairing relationships.
- 5. Strengthen the community to prevent further harms.** Restorative Action is future-focussed and asks the question "What needs to happen to reduce the chance of people being harmed again?" In this way the focus is not on punishment but on how to create a healthier and safer community.

For More Information...

Dan Basham

Fraser Region Community Justice

Initiatives Association (CJI)

Phone: (604) 534-5515

E-mail: danbasham@cjibc.org

Website: www.cjibc.org

Langley School District #35

Phone: (604) 534-7891

E-mail: pthomas@sd35.bc.ca

Web: www.sd35.bc.ca/links/resaction.htm

Training Materials

Conversation Peace is a curriculum for secondary students and staff that focuses on Restorative Action principles and conflict resolution skills. The trainer kit consists of a step-by-step manual and two films. Also available are student workbooks that facilitate the skill-building process.

Talking Peace is a practical elementary classroom resource that conveys the values and principles of Restorative Action through fun activities and exercises.

These materials are available for purchase through the Queen's Printer of BC:

www.publications.gov.bc.ca

or call 1-800-663-6105

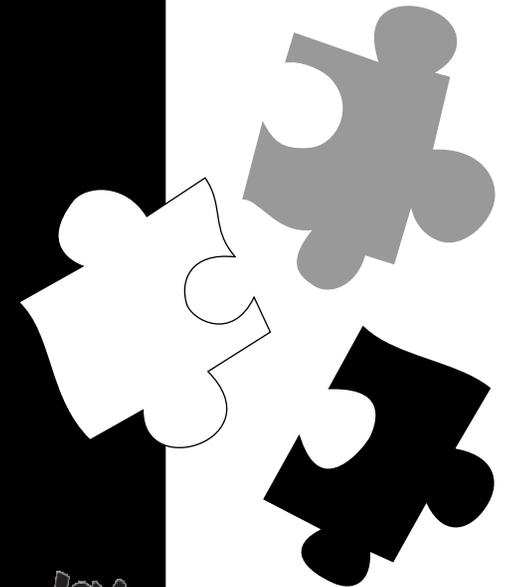
Educating for Peacebuilding has been supported by:

- The Vancouver Foundation
- National Crime Prevention Centre
- Langley Mennonite Fellowship
- Fraser Child and Family Development Fund
- BC Safe Schools
- The Langley School District Foundation
- The CKNW Orphan's Fund
- The Coast Capital Savings Foundation



Restorative Action in Schools

A Community Approach to Harm and Conflict



Educating for Peacebuilding program partners:

- Langley School District #35
- Fraser Region Community Justice Initiatives Assn (CJI)

Whether you are a parent, teacher or student, you want school to be a safe and healthy place. Conflict in social settings like schools is normal and natural, but unresolved conflict causes harm and uncertainty. Imposed sanctions or punishments do not always change harmful behaviour or address the needs of those who have been hurt.

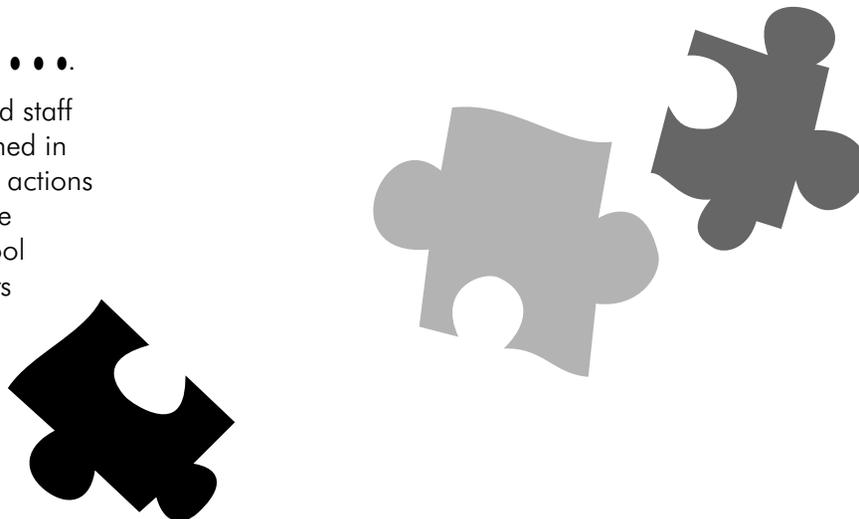
Restorative Action . . .

. . . expands our options and enhances our approach. It seeks to hold people responsible in meaningful ways to address the harm done. This benefits everyone in the following ways:

- The people involved in a conflict gain a better understanding of how their actions affect others. This understanding can help change behaviour.
- Parents have reassurance that conflict in school is being taken seriously and that meaningful outcomes are achieved.
- The school community is strengthened and better equipped to deal with conflict situations in ways that are safe and promote accountability, healthy relationships and healing.

Restorative Action Teams . . .

. . . are groups of students, parents and staff within the school. They have been trained in conflict resolution skills and restorative actions principles. Restorative Action Teams are designed to handle conflict at the school level utilizing specially trained members of the school community.



Types of Conflicts

There are many conflict situations that are appropriate for Restorative Action, including:

- name calling
- minor threats
- exclusion
- interpersonal conflicts
- property violation
- physical assault
- vandalism

In more serious situations, specialized teams composed of counsellors and experienced professional mediators are available.

For more information contact:
Dan Basham at (604) 534-5515,

Restorative Action Step by Step

