

Softening Approaches Sub Committee Meeting
12/17/18 5:00-6:30
Room 105- Educational Services Center

5:00-5:05 Summary of 11/26 meeting discussion and next steps

Kate reviewed the topic of Restorative Practices and notes from the last meeting. That will be the first topic of focus this evening.

5:05-5:30 Laura Cottrell- Restorative Practices in Iowa City Schools

- Overview of current and future implementation: Laura shared the current breadth and depth of Restorative circles in several ICCSD buildings. She discussed the various district training opportunities that have been provided to allow more staff to become familiar with restorative practices and begin to weave these into their building interventions and supports.
- Questions came up regarding what it would entail to train all certified staff on Restorative Practices in a comprehensive way. Laura indicated that this would require 2-3 full days of training, and would not cover the entire continuum, but could fully train on check-in circles and proactive practices. Her team is currently going to buildings and providing ½ day trainings on-site for whichever staff members the building is interested in utilizing for these practices. Teachers, counselors, administrators and Facilitators have been among those taking the ½ day training. The committee discussed the aspect of focusing on elementary level or junior high level as an area of focus, vs. district-wide capacity, which is significantly more challenging to arrange for and provide substitutes where needed. It seems there is not one clear model of this practice or consistent implementation required. It is building discretion.

5:30-5:55 Overview of the Steps to Respect District-wide K-6 curriculum

This discussion was postponed until January, due to time.

5:55-6:15 District Protocol and Procedures related to Bullying & Harassment

These discussions were postponed until the January meeting, due to time.

6:15-6:30 Next Steps:

Kate discussed the next meeting will focus on the areas of District policies related to harassment/bullying and the guidance curriculum as it relates to the same.