Continuing the discussion on Restorative Practices:

Five Restorative Intervention Components:
4. Groups or Circles  5. Formal Conferences

Restorative Practices consist of several different components. Affective Statements were covered in the last news letter and this month we shall review Affective Questions. Affective Statements and Questions are important because they are the basis for how interventions are structured in the restorative process i.e. How we use probing questions to access empathy and reflection.

Affective Questions -

Understanding that conflict is a very normal part of life is crucial to adopting Restorative Practices. Misunderstandings, different needs or interests and differences of opinions are a very common part of life in school and can often lead to disagreements. Whether we like it or not, dealing with these conflicts is part of an educator's job and having tools to help when conflict arises can help us to steer through the situation. Restorative Practices view these conflicts as an opportunity to foster learning and build better relationships. Affective questions will help you explore what the student is thinking and feeling and many of their answers will take the form of Affective Statements. Please note that “Why did you do that” is not on the list below. First, young people often do not know why they did something wrong in a moment of thoughtlessness. Furthermore, that question, although commonly used, often leads students to come up with rationalizations and justifications for their actions. While using Restorative Questions use your professional judgment to decide which questions best fit your particular situation.

Restorative questions
To help with challenging behavior or those affected by others.

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<tr>
<th>When Challenging Behavior</th>
<th>To help those affected</th>
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<tr>
<td>What happened?</td>
<td>What did you think when you realized what had happened?</td>
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<tr>
<td>What were you thinking at the time?</td>
<td>What impact has this incident had on you and others?</td>
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<td>What have you thought about since?</td>
<td>What has been the hardest thing for you?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Who has been affected by what you have done? In what way have they been affective?</td>
<td>What do you think needs to happen to make things right?</td>
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<tr>
<td>What do you think you need to do to make things right?</td>
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Immunizations

All entering seventh and eighth graders will be required to show proof of having received the Tdap vaccine when they return to school in August, 2011. Please get your shot now from your doctor, clinic, or hospital. There will be a free Tdap clinic on Saturday, May 14, from 1-4, at John O’Connell High School.

Thank you.

Clipper Cards: It’s time to Switch!
The way to pay a fare on Muni is changing. The monthly paper passes are transitioning to the Clipper card. The Clipper card is accepted on all Muni vehicles, BART, AC Transit, Caltrain, SamTrans, VTA, and Golden Gate Transit and Ferry. Eventually, the card will be accepted on all Bay Area transit systems.

On Friday, April 15, Hoover students received a paper copy of the MUNI Clipper Card application to bring home. Your student may hand the completed application in on May 11th during lunch to MUNI representatives who will be at Hoover to help them get registered. The student SFUSD H0 number is good as student ID on application.

A youth’s parent or guardian may bring a copy of the youth’s birth certificate to the SFMTA Customer Service Center at 11 South Van Ness Avenue. The youth does not need to be present to submit a form. More info on SFMTA Website: http://www.sfmta.com/cms/mfares/YouthClipperinformationpage.htm

Linda

Shout Outs-
The Mentor Program will be taking its mentors and Mentees to a Ropes Course on May 9th. The group will take part in team building activities and tackle challenging adventure obstacles!

The Mentor Program has logged over 211 meetings between mentors and their mentee’s this year!! Keep up the great work mentors!

Counselors participated in a referral focus group aimed at revamping referral forms district wide.

The “This is it” Spring Dance was a great success. Congratulations to Ms. Wardell and the Dance Planning Committee on a wonderful year of dances!

The 32 day count has begun!!! Ms. Warman is hard at work counting points and preparing for end of the year activities! She is also processing transition forms to ensure that our “At-Risk” students have a smooth and supportive transition to High School. Keep up the hard work Ms. Warman!

Ms. Renteria held a very successful Parent Night at the Excelsior Library, over 30 parents attended, great work Ms. Renteria!!!

Hoover YOWS went to Aptos Middle School to participate in their health fair, Aptos YOWS will be joining us at our Health Fair on May 12th! Activities included booths and games to promote Substance Abuse Prevention. Over 700 students were served. Great Job YOWS and Ms. Wax!