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Beyond Black and White: Infusing Restorative Practices into Student Discipline

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Dr. Louis Fletcher Director of Culture and Services Peter Hilts Chief Education Officer



















































K-12 Public Education: a Political Right

A Human RightSelf-Determination

K-12 Public Education: an Economic Imperative

An InvestmentPersonal & Community







Withholding Political Self-Determination

Withholding Economic Opportunity









A Just Approach to Student Discipline











Five Principles of Restorative Practice

- 1. Cooperation over Coercion
- 2. Face-to-Face Participation
- 3. Outcomes by Impacted
- 4. Equal Access and Consent
- 5. Research-Based Practices



Rethinking Discipline

- 1. Increase awareness of the prevalence, impact, and legal implications of suspension and expulsion;
- 2. Find basic information and resources on effective alternatives; and
- 3. Join a national conversation on how to effectively create positive school climates.





Wisdom from the Field

The fundamental premise of restorative practices is that people are happier, more cooperative and productive, and more likely to make positive changes when those in authority do things **WITH** them, rather than **TO** them for **FOR** them.

— **Ted Wachtel,** International Institute for Restorative Practices





District 49's Cultural Compass





RESPECTFUL

We respect others for their abilities, qualities and achievements.

TRANSPARENT

We build positive relationships through honesty and openness with all stakeholders

CARING

We provide a safe and caring environment for students and staff

ACCOUNTABLE

We hold ourselves accountable for our actions District



Culture Defeats Strategy

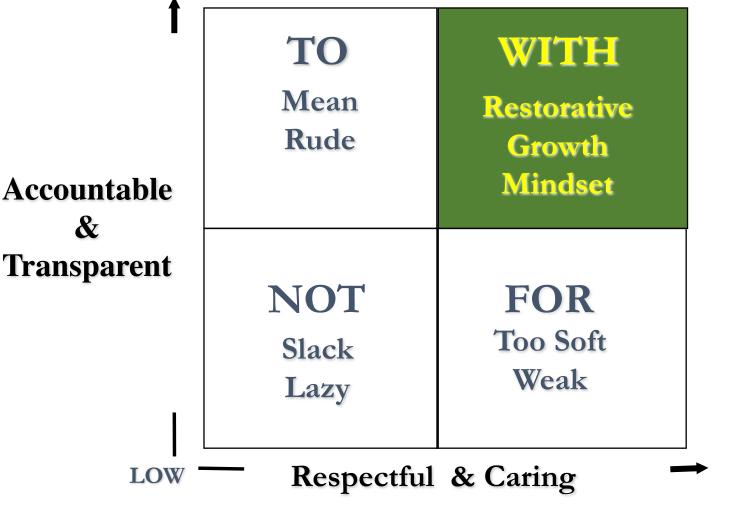


- What culture is operating?
- What strategy is clashing?
- Why does culture defeat strategy?
- How does that insight guide us?









Adapted from Social Discipline Window - Paul McCold and Ted Wachtel - 2000

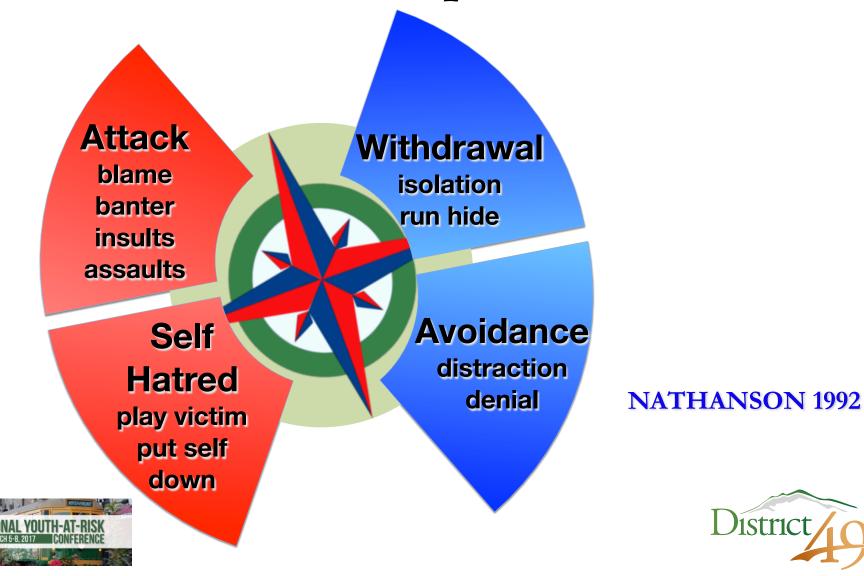
HIGH

District





Nathanson's Compass of Shame



Nathanson's Compass of Shame

- **Tease others**
- Blame teacher
- Anger directed outward
 - Attack Withdrawal blame isolation banter run hide insults assaults **Avoidance** Self distraction Hatred play victim put self Joke about failing down
- **Disavow interest**
- Neutral or distracted



- Avoid discussion
 - Drop out
 - Sadness, fear, anxiety

- Self-directed rage
- Call self "stupid"
- Anger, contempt, disgust

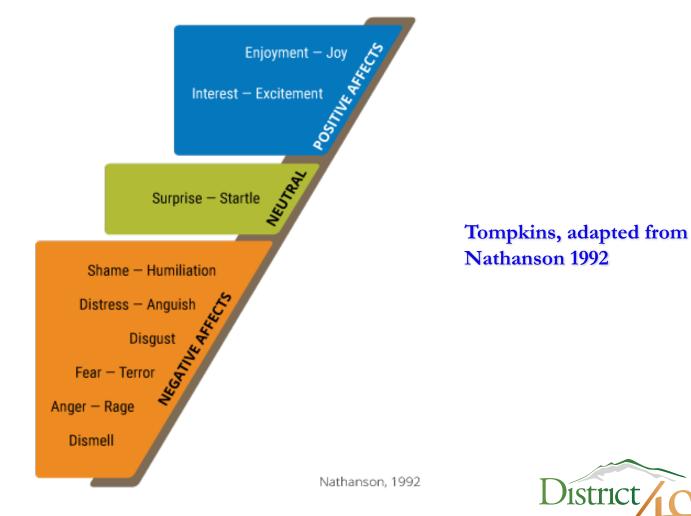


NATHANSON 1992

denial

Nathanson's Shame Explained

The Nine Affects







Advocating to Restore "Joy"



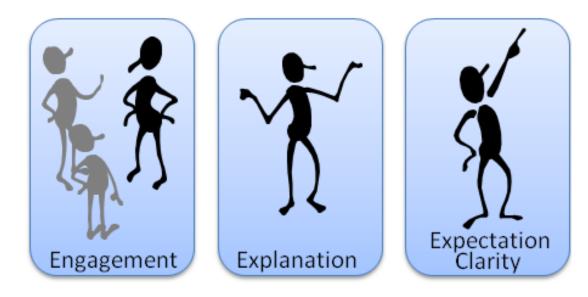
- Making privilege an "Eagle" not an "Albatross"
 - Willingness to Spend "Institutional Likeability"
 - "Inclusive Excellence" should be inclusive
- So what, Who cares?
 - Removing Barriers
 - Changing expectations







What Does Fair Process Look Like?



• Engagement — involving individuals in decisions that affect them by listening to their views and genuinely taking their opinions into account

• Explanation — explaining the reasoning behind a decision to everyone who has been involved or who is affected by it

• Expectation clarity — making sure that everyone clearly understands a decision and what is expected of them in the future (Kim & Mauborgne, 1997)





Build a Culture By:

- 1. Recognizing zero-tolerant discipline and building relationships early *(Early S-E support)*
- 2. Conducting outreach with all stakeholders *(Promoting restoration over punishment)*
- 3. Being transparent about your district's efforts *(Implement strategies to achieve a fair process)*
- 4. Not letting moderate success go to your head, nor letting moderate failure go to your heart *(Build the culture that you want; don't give up)*







Now!

20 Years ago...

When is the best time to plant a tree?