

Connecting the Dots: California MTSS and Restorative Practices

Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) is a framework designed to address academic, behavioral, and social-emotional learning in a fully integrated system of support. Teams use data to guide instruction and identify students who require additional support for increasingly intensive interventions based on need. Student supports are universally designed, differentiated, and integrated. MTSS offers the potential to create needed systematic change through intentional design and redesign of services and supports to quickly identify and match to the needs of all students.

In California MTSS, counties, regions and state educational agencies are the source of technical support, local educational agencies are the place of intervention, and schools are the place of transformation. MTSS is a framework that supports equity-based inclusion within a multi-tiered framework.



What are Restorative Practices?

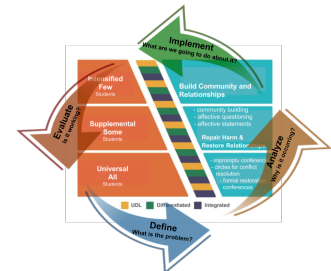
Restorative Practices foster safe learning environments through a framework that builds community and responds to challenging behavior through authentic dialogue, coming to understanding, and making things right. Ted Wachtel, founder of

International Institute for Restorative Practices, states “Human beings are happier, more productive and more likely to make positive changes in their behavior when those in positions of authority do things with them, rather than to them or for them” (Wachtel, 2016). Restorative Practices are inspired by the philosophy and practices of restorative justice, which puts repairing harm done to relationships and people over and above the need for assigning blame and dispensing punishment.



How do California MTSS and Restorative Practices Align?

A continuum of restorative practices, aligned within a multi-tiered system of support, can result in positive behavior change and create a positive school culture and climate. By shifting discipline paradigms from reactive to restoratively proactive, restorative practices can be utilized to transform schools into places that support growth and healthy development of all students.



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Want to learn more about using Restorative Practices to support your MTSS work?

1. Check out these resources to support your MTSS work:
 - [Restorative Practices: A Guide for Educators](#)
 - [International Institute for Restorative Practices](#)
 - [Defining Restorative](#)
 - [Restorative Practices Resources: Orange County Department of Education](#)
2. Consider where Restorative Practices fit within your developed design.
3. Examine your data to determine whether Restorative Practices are a priority area in your local MTSS implementation work.
4. Map currently available resources and identify any additional resources you would need to support your design priorities.
5. Match resources to your identified priorities for implementing MTSS.

