



MONROE COMMUNITY COALITION MINUTES

Thursday, October 12, 2017

Attendance: Tammy Amador, Blake Baird, Jim Bloss, Kathy Bernhardt, Cheryl Gertsch, Michael Hanford, Chris Jury, Tom MacIntyre, Bill Mahoskey, Cherie Matyas, Mary Myers, Jennifer Reid, Emilia Smith, Erin Wood

Guests: Ellie Amador, Student; Jeannette Siemers, Monroe High School; Joanne Dickinson, Monroe School District; Jose Rodriguez, Community Health Center of Snohomish County; Tzel Hernandez, Lorena Lee, Monroe School District; Maria Sherry, Fostering Together; Kimberly Stoll-French, Community; Kathy Jackson, Monroe School District; Cynthia Marcellus, Housing Hope; Laron Olson, Take the Next Step; Liza Patchen-Short, Snohomish County Human Services; Danielle Martin, Fostering Together; Shannon Smith, DSHS; Adrienne Williams, Monroe High School

Staff: Joe Neigel

Sectors of Support represented at this meeting: 9 (green = represented, white = not represented; 8 required)

Youth	Parent	Law Enforcement
Civic/Volunteer Group	Business	Healthcare Professional
Media	School	Youth Serving Organization
Other Substance Abuse Org	Religious/Fraternal Organization	Local Government
Chemical Dependency Treatment	Mental Health	

- **Call to Order**

October meeting of the Monroe Community Coalition was called to order at 1PM by Tom MacIntyre. The October agenda included a community spotlight on foster care and training on restorative practices.

- **Community Spotlight: Fostering Together**

Danielle Martin, from Fostering Together, presented on her agency's mission to find and support foster families. The program aims to ensure safe, loving foster families are available to meet the diverse needs of abused and neglected youth. Fostering Together works to increase the number of foster families across Western Washington, helps families with the licensing process, and provides ongoing support to ensure foster family success.



Ms. Martin also identified five areas of support needed in Monroe:

1. Volunteers for the Office Moms & Dads program, an endeavor that brings in caring adults to the DSHS office to comfort and support children just removed from home and who are awaiting placement.
2. Donations to Fostering Together, including school supplies and cash.
3. Volunteers for Family Night.
4. Appreciation for DSHS staff (meals, cards, notes of support, etc.)
5. Support for Foster Parents.

All of Fostering Together's services are free for participating families. Coalition members can learn more by visiting www.fosteringtogether.org for more information.

- **Restorative Practices in Monroe**

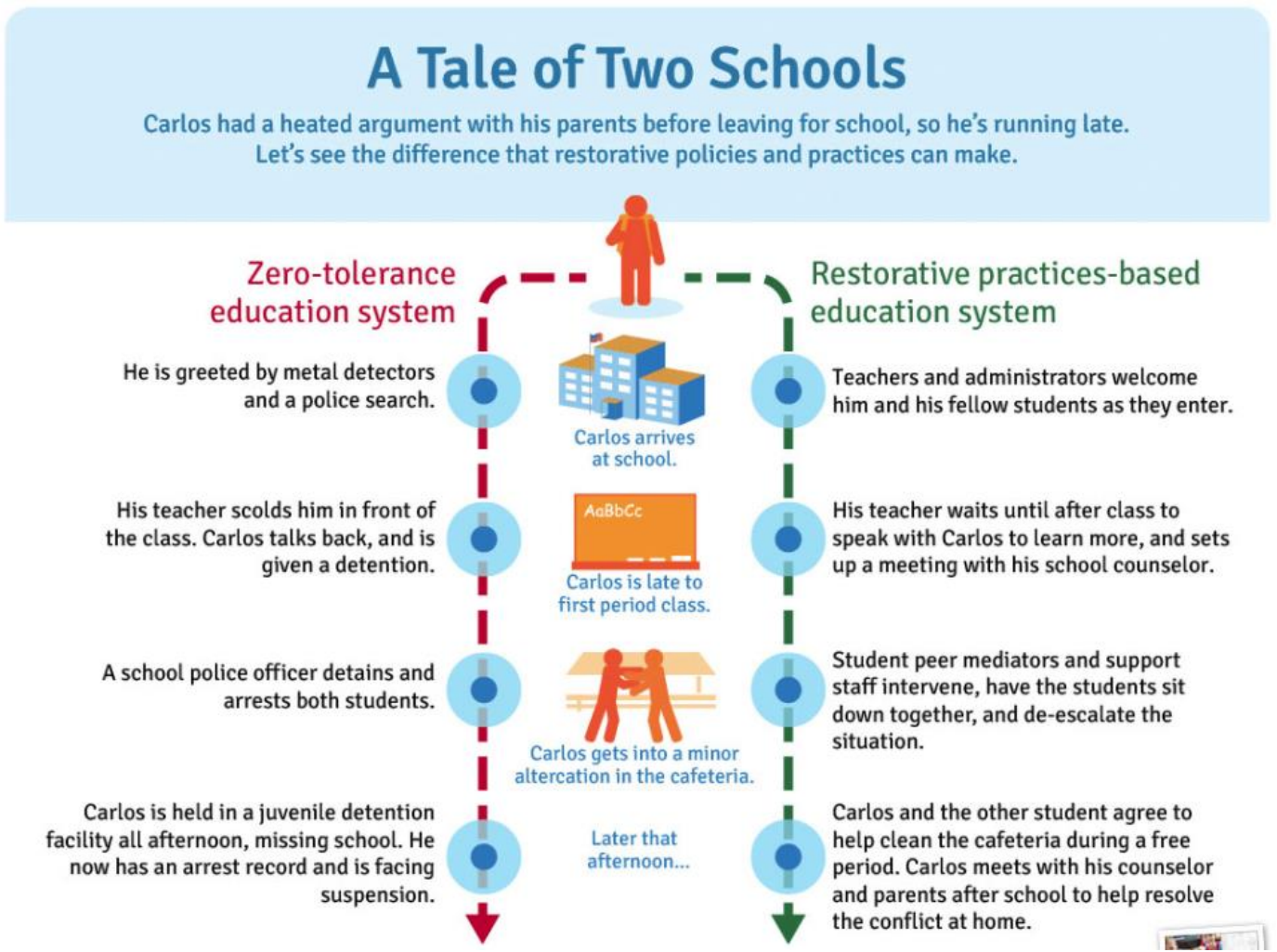
Jeannette Siemers from Monroe High School and Blake Baird from Leaders in Learning High School were recently trained in the Restorative Practices Model by the International Institute for Restorative Practices. They trained the Coalition to build our understanding in how and why this model will be increasingly used throughout the school district.

What Is Restorative Practices?

Restorative practices is a new field of study that builds healthy schools and communities, increases social capital, reduces the impact of crime, decreases antisocial behavior, repairs harm and restores relationships.

The fundamental premise of this model is that people are happier, more cooperative and productive, and more likely to make positive changes when those in positions of authority do things *with* them, rather than *to* them or *for* them. At its most basic level, restorative practices are about building relationship to address and repair harm and wrong doing.

The model uses several evidence-based and research-based practices while facilitating a restorative conference between victim and perpetrator, including motivational interviewing and restorative circles, to move past punishment into repair.



In depth information about the Restorative Practices model is available online from the IIRP website, including a variety of informative videos: <https://www.iirp.edu/what-we-do/what-is-restorative-practices>.

- Annual Community Survey Still Live**

The Coalition received links for this year's Annual Community Survey. We are required to obtain a minimum of 230 responses to have statistically valid results. The survey is open now through December, 2017. Please do respond to the survey and promote it!

- **English:** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SNMOON2017>
- **Spanish:** <https://es.surveymonkey.com/r/SNMOSP2017>

- **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30pm.

Opportunities to Contribute	
Leadership Team	Tom MacIntyre, Kerry Boone, Michael Hanford, Cherie Matyas, Mary Myers
Parent Talk Planning	
Coalition Website	
Theater Ads	
Night at the Movies	
Policy/Advocacy	
Outreach and Awareness	