

Whole-School Uses of Circles

3

Tier 3 Circles: Deal with Conflicts or Harms

Rebuilding relationships in those out of balance

Intensive: 1–5% of the school community

- Circles of Understanding • Repairing Harm Circles
- Healing Circles • Resolving Conflicts Circles
- Reintegration Circles

2

Tier 2 Circles: Problem-Solving and Issue-Focused

Repair relationships at the first sign of things going wrong

Targeted: As needs, problems, and issues arise

- Circles of Understanding • Support Circles • Celebration Circles
- Honoring Circles • Grief Circles • Reintegration Circles

1

Tier 1 Circles: Building Relationships & Communities, Everyday Practices

Reaffirming relationships in the school

Universal: School-wide, 100% of the school community

- Check-In Circles • Talking Circles • Community-Building Circles
- Teaching Circles • Writing Circles

Originating in the mental health field, this three-tiered pyramid concept builds on the work of Brenda Morrison (2007) and Peta Blood (2004), both of whom adapted the pyramid model to show how restorative practices can be most effectively used in schools. Kay Pranis has adapted their pyramid model to show how Circles can be used in schools on all three tiers.

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