



Taylor School District
Resilience Department

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Dear Taylor Families,

Taylor School District has hired a team of resilience coaches to bring trauma-informed care to all of Taylor's schools and students. In doing so TSD is recognizing that solely punishing students is less beneficial than the more modern approach of Restorative Justice. Restorative Justice focuses heavily on giving students **meaningful** opportunities to acknowledge and accept responsibility for their wrongdoings. When students get the chance to actively participate in their disciplinary process (apologizing and/or making real efforts to repair the harm done), they are less likely to repeat that behavior. In this way kids learn how to deal with conflict in a more positive way using real life skills, while we also expose them to a variety of tools which allow them to make better choices in the future.

The resilience team has already facilitated restorative circles, restorative conversations and post suspension re-entry meetings. Restorative Justice is applicable for all grade levels (preK - 12), and gives our students the well-deserved chance to practice and apply their social-emotional skills. It is the hope of Taylor Schools and the resilience team to transform some of the outdated aspects of our disciplinary processes by beginning to include restorative measures, thus helping our students grow both academically and in their capacity as well adjusted human beings.

You will hear more about our work in the schools in the future. For now, just know that this team is working tirelessly to help students learn how to repair their mistakes and function in their school setting in a proactive way.

If you have any questions about our work in Taylor schools, please reach out.

Thank you, Emily