BUILDING A CULTURE OF CARE THROUGH RESTORATIVE JUSTICE PRACTICES

A CASE STUDY OF IMPROVING ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AND RETENTION FOR LATINO/HISPANIC STUDENTS

WHO

A group of researchers from Colorado State University initiated the "Culture of Care" project at a large high school in Denver. Latino/Hispanic students and their parents maintained the project after implementation.

OBJECTIVE

Work with parents, students, and teachers to address critical problems of low academic achievement and low retention.

> **AT THE CORE OF A CULTURE OF CARE IS THE IDEA OF BUILDING HEALTHY AND CARING RELATIONSHIPS**
> *- Dr. Tom Cavanagh*

THE PROCESS

- **Raise awareness of the collective experiences of the students and their parents**
- **Involve parents more in their child's educational journey**
- **Change teachers' practices**
- **Dismantle the school-to-prison pipeline by introducing restorative justice practices into the classroom as a way of responding to wrongdoing and conflict**

SCIENCE AND SERVICES

CTRJI
Center for Trauma Recovery and Juvenile Justice

SPOTLIGHT

THE THREE FUNDAMENTALS OF A CULTURE OF CARE

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SPOTLIGHT

1 AN ETHIC OF CARE

Establish "caring for students' well-being" as a key role of teachers.

2 CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE PEDAGOGY

Place relationships at the center of teaching and learning

3 RESTORATIVE PRACTICES

Focus on repairing harm, particularly to relationships

RESULTS

The focus on creating positive and caring relationships within the school improved relationships between Latino/Hispanic students and their teachers. As a result, the school saw a decrease in students skipping or ditching class and an improvement in academic achievement. While discipline remained a problem for the school, the frequency decreased.

LEARN MORE

Source: Cavanagh, T., Vigil, P., & Garcia, E. (2014). A Story Legitimating the Voices of Latino/Hispanic Students and their Parents: Creating a Restorative Justice Response to Wrongdoing and Conflict in Schools. Equity & Excellence in Education, 47(4), 565–579. https://doi.org/10.1080/10665684.2014.958966