Day One

Keynote • 9:00 - 9:30 am

"Restorative Practices Unplugged: Myths, Missteps, and Magic"
– Jo Ann Freiberg

Let's cut through the noise and uncover the real deal about restorative practices! This keynote will bust myths, highlight common missteps, and show you the magic of doing it right. Plus, you'll see how being restorative isn't just for the classroom – it's a game-changer for life!

MORNING SESSIONS • 9:40 am – 12:10 pm

Choose ONE Full Morning Session OR TWO 70-Minute Sessions
One mid-morning break

Full Morning Session • 9:40 am – 12:10 pm

A-1: Playing the Restorative Game: The Rules You Need to Win *– Jo Ann Freiberg*
Restorative practices aren't a cookie-cutter program – they're a mindset and a way of life. In this dynamic session, you'll uncover the essential rules and sneaky strategies to make restorative practices work like a charm. Let's learn how to play (and win) the restorative game with authenticity and flair!

First 70–Minute Morning Sessions 9:40 – 10:50 am

CHOOSE ONE: A-2 or A-3

A-2: Fundamentals of Restorative Practices
– Julie Compton
What really works to reduce students' problem behavior and increase their desire to act responsibly and respectfully? Learn the key elements for successfully implementing restorative practices in your class or school. Assess your practices and understand where you are headed in your discipline journey. You will be able to analyze your classroom activities and leave with new ideas that will produce respectful and responsible behavior and maximal learning.

A-3: Why Behavior Plans Fail and What to Do Instead *– MaryAnn Brittingham*
If the traditional behavior plan model is not working for your students, you won't want to miss this session! MaryAnn will share common reasons why they don't work and what you can do instead using a restorative practices lens. You will gain practical strategies and valuable tips for helping students take responsibility for their behavior and how you can break down the new behavior into small, doable steps.

Second 70–Minute Morning Sessions 11:00 am – 12:10 pm

CHOOSE ONE: A-4 or A-5

A-4: Debriefing: Seizing the Teachable Moment When Misbehavior Occurs
– Julie Compton
In the classroom where restorative practices are the focus, misbehavior is a teachable moment; the learner is active and the learning relevant. Few view problem behaviors as an opportunity to teach vital social and life skills. Learn a simple strategy to teach in response to troublesome behaviors, as they occur, and to restore relationships, and help students become successful as you create a more restorative environment in your classroom.

A-5: Breaking Conflict Cycles With Angry Students *– MaryAnn Brittingham*
Anger comes from a variety of places, most of which are not even found at school. Some students have anger always simmering below the surface. Once educators can understand the student's perception, they can help students see the patterns that lead to the release of that anger, so it can more effectively be interrupted. Through our response to an angry student, we can simultaneously help them identify the real cause while we provide the necessary support to result in an outcome that breaks the conflict cycle.

Lunch break • 12:10 – 1:10 pm

"Highly recommend! I am taking away a lot to create bite-sized lessons to share with admin and teaching staff!"
– Christopher Samarripas, Counselor

"One of the best conferences I've attended! Great presenters and very informative. LOVE, LOVE, LOVED this!"
– Raquel Edwards, Elementary School Social Worker

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Day One

AFTERNOON SESSIONS • 1:10 – 3:40 pm

Choose ONE Full Afternoon Session OR TWO 70-Minute Sessions
One mid-afternoon break

Full Afternoon Session • 1:10 – 3:40 pm

B-1: Practical Restorative Strategies to Effectively Respond to Power Struggles *– MaryAnn Brittingham*

Learn highly effective strategies to defuse power struggles. Identify your response style while dealing with disrespectful students. Learn specific restorative strategies to avoid escalating conversations into arguments – what you can say and how to say it. This session will provide educators with a variety of realistic strategies, skills, and attitudes to stay calm and circumvent power struggles.

First 70–Minute Afternoon Sessions 1:10 – 2:20 pm

CHOOSE ONE: B-2 or B-3

B-2: Circles That Spark Learning Magic *– Jo Ann Freiberg*

Want to bring the buzz back to your classroom? Circles aren't just for bonding – they're a powerhouse for academic success too! Discover how to make circles a go-to strategy for teaching, building relationships, and creating a community your students will love.

B-3: Proven Strategies to Teach Social-Emotional Skills for Personal and Interpersonal Success *– Julie Compton*

Misbehavior is often a sign that students do not have the skills necessary to respond effectively to others. Learn to look at misbehavior as a teaching opportunity and determine what skills need to be taught and strengthened for the student to be successful. Learn simple strategies taken from a restorative practices approach that teach and encourage those skills, helping students to develop life-long social competencies.

Second 70–Minute Afternoon Sessions 2:30 – 3:40 pm

CHOOSE ONE: B-4 or B-5

B-4: Social Contracts: The Secret Sauce for Student Buy-In *– Jo Ann Freiberg*

Ditch the "rules are rules" approach and get your students onboard with contracts they help create! This session shows you the fun and effective way to build social contracts that foster accountability and keep everyone on the same page. Discover techniques to ensure that these contracts are both meaningful and impactful.

B-5: Rules Alone Don't Create an Orderly Environment *– Julie Compton*

Rules are everywhere, but what is it that creates an engaged, orderly classroom? Join Julie to explore which restorative practices, classroom activities and compelling procedures produce the respectful and responsible behavior all students are capable of achieving. Discover the key strategies needed to achieve a more engaged and orderly classroom. Understand the difference between a rule-bound classroom and one that is pleasant yet upholds both high expectations for behavior and learning and low tolerances for misbehavior.

Online Learning

BER offers educators a wide range of online courses that are affordable, fun, fast, and convenient. BER is now offering On Demand Video-Based courses. You may earn optional graduate-level credits for most courses. See the catalog of available courses at www.ber.org/online

… "Highly impressed with the presenters and their valuable information!" …

Day Two

MORNING SESSIONS • 9:00 – 11:40 am

Choose ONE Full Morning Session OR TWO 75-Minute Sessions
One mid-morning break

Full Morning Session • 9:00 – 11:40 am

C-1: Administrative Intervention: Including Restorative Practices Into Your Office Referrals – *Julie Compton*

There is scarcely a school that doesn't use the office discipline referral (ODR) as an eventual response for chronic or intense behavior. Come learn a proven process that supports teachers and maintains low tolerances for inappropriate behavior, all while strengthening the students' skills and avoiding typical punitive approaches such as suspensions and detentions. You will learn how to: help students regain self-control, problem solve with the student and teach skills vital for their success, assist the student with restitution that restores relationships, use predictable yet personal consequences, and ensure emotional security for the students through concern and a commitment to keep them successfully in school. ODRs will never be the same.

First 75–Minute Morning Sessions
9:00 – 10:15 am

CHOOSE ONE: C-2 or C-3

C-2: Working With Resistant Team Members Who Don't Like Change – *MaryAnn Brittingham*

Whether you have volunteer or mandatory involvement, there are always those who don't seem to have a stake in a schoolwide plan that may or may not make sense to them. Change is difficult even though it is the only constant in life. Learn ways to transition and support staff and colleagues who are not ready to jump into a new model of working with students' behaviors and fear change.

C-3: Restorative Practices: Science Meets Heart – *Jo Ann Freiberg*

What makes restorative practices work so well? It's science, baby! Dive into the brainy side of being human and discover why these approaches succeed where traditional discipline falls short. Spoiler alert: It's all about connection! Learn how neuroscience backs up the effectiveness of these powerful methods.

Second 75–Minute Morning Sessions
10:25 – 11:40 am

CHOOSE ONE: C-4 or C-5

C-4: Navigating the School Year: From Disappointment to Hope – *MaryAnn Brittingham*

Elevate your teaching journey with optimism and resilience. Embrace the wisdom of Martin Luther King Jr.: "We must accept finite disappointment, but never lose infinite hope." Explore the transformative power of resilience—the key to accepting and thriving in your new reality. Backed by research, you'll discover how cultivating hope is a learnable, measurable skill that significantly impacts success and persistence. Uncover personalized strategies to nurture hope and resilience, empowering you to confidently navigate the unique challenges each school year presents. Join MaryAnn for an inspiring session that transforms challenges into opportunities for growth and success.

C-5: Problem-Solving the Restorative Way: Quick, Easy, and Effective – *Jo Ann Freiberg*

Got a tough situation? Restorative questions to the rescue! This session is your crash course on how to use these magical tools for solving problems in groups big and small – no special facilitator required. Learn techniques that can be applied immediately to create a more harmonious and understanding classroom.

Lunch Break • 11:40 am – 12:40 pm

Comprehensive Digital Resource Handbook

You will receive an extensive digital resource handbook, specifically designed for this conference. Included in the handbook are resource materials for ALL conference sessions, even those you don't attend. These materials include:

- Strategies to transform your discipline approach to one based on restorative practices that foster learning and growth
- Effective verbal skills that decrease conflict, promote emotional intelligence and communicate respect and caring
- Techniques to help students replace negative attitudes with positive ones
- Clear steps for helping students give up the victim stance and take personal responsibility for their choices and actions

"I've learned so much. Each presenter was a joy to learn from, and the resources I've gathered from these short two days will alter how I teach moving forward!"

– Maximo Penichet, Behavior Development Special Education Teacher

On-Site Training

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Day Two

AFTERNOON SESSIONS • 12:40 – 3:20 pm

Choose TWO 75-Minute Afternoon Sessions
One mid-afternoon break

First 75–Minute Afternoon Sessions 12:40 – 1:55 pm

CHOOSE ONE: D-1, D-2 or D-3

D-1: De-Escalation of Intense Behavior – *Julie Compton*

When student behavior escalates it is crucial to have the skill set that will steer you to remain calm and supportive while also calming the student. Learn the language and behaviors to avoid as well as proven verbal interactions to calm students in crisis and help them regain self-control. You won't want to miss these key restorative strategies!

D-2: Creating Classrooms That Feel Like Home – *Jo Ann Freiberg*

Say goodbye to chaos and hello to calm with routines and rituals that make your classroom a place where everyone feels safe and welcome. From daily rituals to special celebrations, you'll learn how to create a space students love showing up to every day.

D-3: Improve Emotional Dysregulation Through Mindfulness – *MaryAnn Brittingham*

Anxiety is a common factor for people who have problems managing their emotions. Increased awareness helps us gain control of behavior. We can't change our thoughts or emotions unless we are aware of what we're thinking and feeling. There are many benefits to incorporating mindfulness as a restorative tool in your toolbelt including strategies to improve students' attention.

Second 75–Minute Afternoon Sessions 2:05 – 3:20 pm

CHOOSE ONE: D-4, D-5 or D-6

D-4: Restitution and Restoration: Helping Students Make Things Right – *Julie Compton*

A punishment orientation reinforces a low level of moral development and does not help students develop a higher, more socially valuable level of morality. Learn the role of restitution in a restorative classroom to repair any damage or harm done to others, how to help students take ownership for making amends, and how to guide them to a successful classroom re-entry.

D-5: Relationships Rule: Building a Classroom Community That Lasts – *Jo Ann Freiberg*

A strong classroom community isn't just nice to have – it's the foundation of restorative success. Learn playful, powerful strategies to create a classroom vibe that feels like family. When relationships thrive, everything else falls into place, fostering an environment where students feel valued and supported.

D-6: Building Resilience: A Trauma-Sensitive Classroom – *MaryAnn Brittingham*

Unlock the keys to a resilient learning environment in MaryAnn's session designed for anyone wanting a more trauma-sensitive classroom. Discover practical strategies to navigate the impact of trauma and chronic stress on students and their academic journey. Gain insights into utilizing Bruce Perry's 'upside down triangle' for student self-regulation, identifying triggers, and fostering a compassionate response. Walk away equipped with actionable tools to create a supportive space that empowers both educators and students. Join MaryAnn to discover the tools to turn obstacles into workable solutions.