

# RESTORATIVE STRATEGIES INITIATIVE



SARASOTA  
County Schools

A photograph of five diverse children of various ethnicities huddled together, smiling broadly at the camera. They are positioned in the center of the page, with their heads touching and arms visible. The background is a bright, clear blue sky.

## IMPROVING THE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT THROUGH HEALTHY CONVERSATIONS

### *Goals*

- Establish a safe school culture
- Reduce inappropriate behaviors
- Promote academic engagement
- Increase empathy and accountability
- Decrease suspension rate



# Overview

RESTORATIVE STRATEGIES INITIATIVE



Feeling insecure at school is a major reason students skip school, perform poorly or behave badly. The Restorative Strategies initiative is an environment where students learn to feel safe and confident by expressing their feelings and understanding how their actions affect others.

Restorative Strategies help students learn to choose appropriate behaviors, to resolve interpersonal issues before they develop into behavior problems and to mitigate the harm done when conflicts do occur.

In schools where Restorative Strategies are fully implemented and practiced, students feel safer and more connected to their school and their peers than they did before the program started. Attendance, engagement and behavior improve. Fewer students are suspended.

## Benefits

### Reduce

- Disruptive behavior
- Conflict
- Bullying
- Suspensions

### Improve

- Behavior
- Learning
- Attendance
- Relationships

### Develop

- Responsibility
- Accountability
- Empathy
- Conflict resolution skills

For more information on the Restorative Strategies Initiative in the Sarasota County Schools, please contact Pupil Support Services Department at (941) 927-9000, Ext. 34756. [www.sarasotacountyschools.net/departments/restorativestrategies](http://www.sarasotacountyschools.net/departments/restorativestrategies)