

NURTURING INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT

December 2018 Report on NICE Program

Outcomes: After one year of the program at the two East Ramapo High Schools, the NICE Program has already become part of the school culture and many shifts in the schools have already taken place.

- **Code of Conduct:** The NICE Director is now leading the committee to rewrite the school discipline code, making it less punitive and more restorative.
- **Referral Process:** At Spring Valley High School, the school used the referral process that the NICE Team implemented last year as their exemplar model to create a school-wide process (and form) going forward.
- **Student Support Team/Risk Review Meeting:** The NICE Team has been invited by the Administrators at Spring Valley High School to be part of their weekly Student Support meetings to bring the Social and Emotional Lens to the table.

Research:

- Hope visited Syracuse University two weeks ago to work with the Research Team on developing a Logic Model for the program and begin the process of developing the replicable components of the program for program fidelity and implementation
- See other document from Syracuse

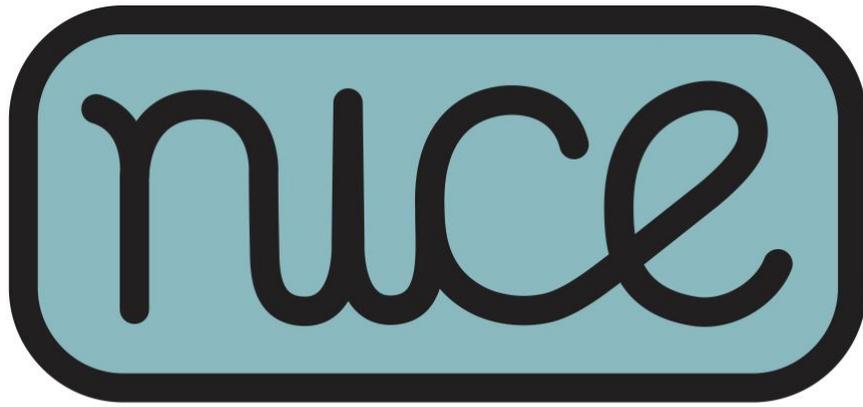


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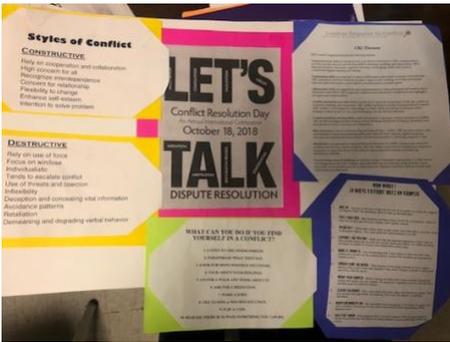


Circles

- Teacher's Quote at the end of last year: "I really liked the topics discussed. I feel as though they really opened up many underlying issues with my students. These issues were addressed in a safe and non-judgmental environment. Many of these issues have now been resolved over the course of the year."
- Teacher's Quote #2: "The NICE staff have helped build community among my students and help create a better learning environment."
- The NICE Program at both schools continue to partner with the Health classes, bringing community-building circles to the classroom every week
- New teachers are asking the NICE Team for help with classroom management, and are interested in bringing circles to their classrooms as a way to connect with the students and alleviate behavior concerns
- After school circles for Young Women, Young Men, and a Multicultural Group have begun



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Other Areas of Engagement

- Freshman Orientation circles with incoming 9th grade students at SVHS
- Parent circles with incoming 9th grade parents at SVHS
- Welcome Back to School breakfast with teachers, admin, and security at both schools
- Peace Day activities: graffiti wall, quotes on lollipops
- PSAT Day
 - Circles with the whole 9th grade at SVHS
 - Presentation on Heart Story with whole 9th grade at Ramapo
- PTA Night at both schools
 - Translated for parents
 - Facilitated an icebreaker activity for the parents at both schools
 - Spoke about NICE Program
- Wellness Week at SVHS
 - NICE Team engaged students in daily activities and challenges regarding personal health and wellness
 - Mindfulness jars, Wellness bingo, "I am, because" poems, Problem-solving scavenger hunt
 - Wellness expo for Parents: NICE had a table at the expo and met with parents about our program
- Conflict Resolution Day at Ramapo
 - NICE Team had a 5-day challenge for students, centering around kindness and resolving conflict
 - NICE Team had a table during lunch to engage students in a discussion about resolving conflict
- Ambassador Program at SVHS
 - Starting next week, the NICE Team (led by Tara) will start a new initiative, training students in Conflict Resolution strategies as a precursor to a Peer Mediation program

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