



ARROWSMITH COMMUNITY JUSTICE SOCIETY

Restorative Action

School Conference Script

SEAT PARTICIPANTS:

- * Welcome to an Arrowsmith Community Justice Society's Restorative Action Conference
- * As you know, my name is _____ and I will be your facilitator today. My co-facilitator(s) is/are _____
- * I'd like to introduce everyone in the circle
 - The youth, their family, and support people
 - School representative(s)
 - Others

THANK YOU:

- * For coming today and showing your willingness to resolve this matter which has caused harm in your school. It takes a lot of courage to sit down and address conflict with your peers.

CONFERENCE:

- * Today, this conference will focus on the incident which occurred at _____
- * The conference is a confidential process, with 2 exceptions. If anyone makes:
 1. A disclosure about the safety of a child, or
 2. A disclosure of a criminal offence,Explain confidentiality to the youth: "this conference and its outcome are to only be shared with the people in this room".
- * In order to focus on the issues at hand, please turn off all electronic devices unless they are required for your work.

**Youth 1
(who was harmed if applicable)**

- * Your presence here is voluntary and you are free to leave at any time.
- * If you choose to leave before you sign an agreed upon resolution agreement, the matter will be returned to _____ (Principal) to handle in a different way.
- * By taking the time to understand each other's thoughts and feelings as well as completing the resolution agreement, this matter will be resolved.
- * Do you understand this _____ (Youth)?
- * Do you understand this _____ & _____ (Youth guardians)?

**Youth 2
(who was harmed if
applicable)**

- * Your presence here is voluntary and you are free to leave at any time.
- * If you choose to leave before you sign an agreed upon resolution agreement, the matter will be returned to _____ (Principal) to handle in a different way.
- * By taking the time to understand each other's thoughts and feelings as well as completing the resolution agreement, this matter will be resolved.
- * Do you understand this _____ (Youth)?
- * Do you understand this _____ & _____ (Youth guardians)?

CONFERENCE:

- * We're here to address the incident which occurred and how you and others may have been affected by it.
- * It must be understood we are not here to judge each other.
- * Instead, we're here to talk about what happened from both sides and to help heal any relationships which may have been broken.
- * Does everyone understand this?

GUIDELINES:

- * I ask everyone to:
 1. Share your thoughts and feelings regarding this matter,
 2. Respect other people's thoughts and feelings, which will be shared in this circle, by waiting your turn to speak and by listening to others when they are talking.
- * Does everyone agree to these guidelines?

YOUTH 1:

- * _____ has admitted his/her role in this incident and has shown a willingness to repair any harm. We'll start by asking him/her to tell us what happened on _____?

Sample questions:

- * *What were you thinking before....*
- * *What were you thinking during...*
- * *What were you thinking immediately after....*
- * *Tell us how you felt when your parents found out*
- * *What has been happening since this incident?*
- * *Who has been affected? (Anyone else?)*
- * *What effect has (the incident) had on you?*
- * *Tell us more about...*
- * *What are you thinking now?*

YOUTH 2: * _____ has admitted his/her role in this incident and has shown a willingness to repair any harm. Now I'd like to ask you what happened on _____?

Sample questions:

- * *What were you thinking before....*
- * *What were you thinking during...*
- * *What were you thinking immediately after....*
- * *Tell us how you felt when your parents found out*
- * *What has been happening since this incident?*
- * *Who has been affected? (Anyone else?)*
- * *What effect has (the incident) had on you?*
- * *Tell us more about...*
- * *What are you thinking now?*

❖ **Repeat if more than 2 youths are involved in the incident**

YOUTH GUARDIAN(S) 1 * _____, how did you find out about what happened?
* What did you think when you heard about it?
* What has been happening with _____ since it happened?
* How has your family been affected?
* Specific questions.

YOUTH GUARDIAN(S) 2 * _____, how did you find out about what happened?
* What did you think when you heard about it?
* What has been happening with _____ since it happened?
* How has your family been affected?
* Specific questions.

SCHOOL REP * How did you find out about what _____ did?
* What has happened with _____ since this happened?
* How have you been affected by their actions?
* Specific questions.

**SUPPORT PERSON(S)
(IF APPLICABLE)** * How did you become involved?
* How did it affect you?
* What are the main issues for you?

TO ALL OF THE PARTICIPANTS

* Is there anything you wish to add?

YOUTH(S) * Before we move on, is there anything you would like to say to those who were harmed by your actions or to anyone else here?

AGREEMENT

(Note: This is an interactive process. It may take some time to reach agreement on a resolution)

- YOUTH 2** * After hearing all that has been said here, what do you want to see happen as a result of this conference?
- YOUTH 1** * After hearing all that has been said here, what do you want to see happen as a result of this conference?
- YOUTH GUARDIAN 1&2** * What do you want to see happen?
- SCHOOL REP** * What do you want to see happen?
- SUPPORT PERSON(S)** * What do you want to see happen?
- CO-FACILITATOR** May react to what has been suggested in terms of reasonable and achievable resolution

❖ Check after contribution or as necessary to ensure full understanding

- TO ALL** *
- * Do you think this is fair? Reasonable? Achievable?
 - * Summarize the agreement. What I'm hearing is....
 - * Is everyone satisfied with this agreement?
- CO-FACILITATOR** *
- * Do you have anything you wish to say?
- CLOSING** *
- * Is there anything anyone would like to say before we close?
 - * At this time I'd like to close the conference?

“Thank you for taking the time to participate in the conference.”

“Congratulations to you both for working through the issues and reaching an agreement. We acknowledge it is not easy to address conflict like this and we commend you for your courage to be here”

“Taking the time to repair the harm has created a healthier and safer school community”

We will be in contact with you until the resolution agreement is completed.

Thanks again for your participation!