



2024 Annual VTPBIS Forum:
***Making Belonging Happen in Vermont Schools:
Putting Our Best Ideas into Practice***

October 16, 2024

Killington Grand, Killington VT

8:30am - 3:30pm

All materials can be found at: <https://bit.ly/VTPBISForum2024>



Agenda:

8:30-9:00 - Registration and Morning Refreshments

9:00-9:05 - Opening Remarks – *Cassandra Townshend and Amy Wheeler-Sutton,
BEST/VTPBIS Co-Directors*

***Location:** Oscar Wilde Ballrooms*

**9:05-9:50 - General Session - Re-envisioning MTSS for Social, Emotional,
Behavioral Learning: Creating Community within the PBIS Framework -**

Gregg Stoller, MSW, BCBA, LBA; VTPBIS Coach and Trainer

***Location:** Oscar Wilde Ballrooms*

10:00-11:30 - Workshop Session 1:

A. PBIS 101. How can we be sure our school is up to date and implementing PBIS with fidelity? Does our staff truly understand the whys and hows of PBIS? How can we correct misperceptions about PBIS and help build collective ownership? What is PBIS, anyway? Whether you're looking for an introduction, an update, a review, or information to support staff understanding, this workshop will provide a comprehensive overview of the evidence-based PBIS framework: Centering equity in systems, data, and practices in order to support positive student and staff outcomes. Participants will have the opportunity to use the Universal PBIS Big Ideas to identify their school's implementation strengths, needs, and next steps.

Presenter: Chantelle Albin, VTPBIS Trainer and Coach

***Location:** Northstar II*

B. Building and Sustaining Collective Ownership. CANCELLED!

C. Integrating Social Emotional Well-being into Early Learning Environments. This workshop focuses on empowering educators to lean into children's preferences and tendencies for communication, language, play, and social communication. We will explore sensory processing & co-regulation, supporting co-regulation and creating a facilitative environment, implementing classroom-wide and individualized supports as well as create opportunities that foster a growth mindset and collaborative problem-solving during play schemes.

Presenter: Laura Bonazinga Bouyea, M.S., SLP-CCC

***Location:** Preston's*

D. The Restorative Leader: Role-Modeling for Your School Community. The challenges of being a school leader today are vastly different from what they were even five years ago. Cultural and political division, pandemic-related delays in student learning, and high turnover have made it more important than ever to apply equity-centered, trauma-informed, and restorative principles and practices to the job. Bringing her passion for holistic restorative approaches and experiences as a classroom teacher, administrator, and now coach and consultant, Jessica will lead participants of this workshop through a restorative leadership coaching experience focused on ways to meet the complex and growing demands of school leadership. Beginning with reflecting on our own personal values and leadership approaches, your time will be centered on connecting and sharing with each other, examining a model for restorative leadership, and identifying changes that can be made immediately to strengthen your capacity, skill, and motivation in your role.

Presenter: Jessica Villeneuve, Consultant and Coach, Starling Collaborative

Location: Roundabout

E. Centering Equity within PBIS (Part 1 of 2). Educational equity means that every student receives what they need to thrive and have positive academic and social-emotional outcomes. But how do we get there? And how do we make sure we're not inadvertently perpetuating inequities and harm? Intentionally integrating equity into PBIS has resulted in decreased inequities in exclusionary discipline, teacher praise-to-reprimand ratios, and academic outcomes across races; improvements in student behavior, school climate, and school connectedness; and increased instructional time. This two-part workshop will provide exploration activities and opportunities to identify and plan feasible and effective ways to explicitly and intentionally center equity within your school's PBIS implementation.

Presenter: Rebecca Lallier, VTPBIS Coach and Trainer

Location: Escapade I and II

F. Classroom Practices to Foster Social, Emotional, and Behavioral Growth (Part 1 of 2). These sessions have been designed to support educators in strengthening their use of evidence-based classroom practices to create positive learning environments. Preventative, proactive classroom practices will be prioritized with some attention to responsive techniques. Participants will have the opportunity to create an action plan, which will support the context-specific application of new skills.

Presenter: Nicole Peterson, Ph.D. Research Associate, University of Connecticut; NEPBIS Leadership Team

Location: Gateway II

G. Embedding Function-Based Thinking Within Restorative Approaches (Part 1 of 2). Through a strengths-based orientation, participants will explore how person-centered function-based thinking and restorative approaches aim to promote inclusion, access to educational and social opportunities, and strategies to strengthen belonging and promote active accountability. In this two-part workshop, participants will gain a foundational understanding of function-based thinking within a trauma-responsive framework, explore relevant research on how to leverage restorative approaches to enhance and align the evolution of PBIS within the school and classroom community and share their experiences integrating Function-Based Thinking within Restorative Approaches by discussing case examples and system-level efforts to promote this work.

Presenters: Jon Kidde and Jeremy Tretiak, VTPBIS Coaches and Trainers

Location: Gateway I

H. Creating Effective Behavior Response Systems: An educator's guide to the use of positive feedback and response strategies in schools (Part 1 of 2). For many educators, student "behavior" is their most pressing concern. Despite this fact, most teaching programs offer little coursework on how to effectively address interfering student behavior. In this workshop, participants will get a crash course on the sometimes confusing world of behavior change and learn how to effectively evaluate and modify their current behavioral systems.

Presenter: Gregg Stoller, VTPBIS Trainer and Coach

Location: *Northstar I*

I. “Now That You’re in the Weeds”: A Follow-up Training for Vermont Project AWARE Sites Only (Part 1 of 2). These sessions are a continuation of the work begun at the BEST/VTmtss Summer Institute and are designed to support and enhance the progress of your work with Project AWARE. There will be a focus on the work of the District Community Leadership Team (DCLT), including how data, systems, and practices are being utilized. The sessions will include team time along with whole group discussion and problem-solving.

Presenter: Ami Flammini, LCSW

Location: *Owners’ Lounge (take the elevator to the second floor and turn right)*

11:40-12:40- VTPBIS Topic-Based Ignite Sessions: These shorter sessions are an opportunity for participants to hear briefly about a topic and then engage in discussion.

1. SWIS: What’s New and Q&A

Facilitator: Amy Wheeler-Sutton, BEST Co-Director

Location: *Escapade I and II*

2. Connecting with VTPBIS Administrators & Coordinators: What’s New This Year and Networking Opportunities

Facilitator: Cassandra Townshend, BEST Co-Director

Location: *Gateway II*

3. Spotlight on High Schools: Systems, Data, and Practices that Promote Social, Emotional, Behavioral Learning

Facilitator: Kym Asam, VTPBIS Trainer and Coach

Location: *Gateway I*

4. Creative Acknowledgement Systems and School-Wide Celebrations

Facilitator: Chantelle Albin and Lauralee Keach, VTPBIS Trainers and Coaches

Location: *Northstar II*

5. Building Authentic Student Voice & Youth-Adult Partnership: Why It’s Important, What It Looks Like, and How It Can Work in Your School

Facilitator: Lindsey Halman, UP for Learning Executive Director

Location: *Northstar I*

6. Outright Vermont Resources and Strategies for Supporting LGBTQ Students

Facilitator: Courage Pearson, Outright Vermont

Location: *Roundabout*

7. Umatter Suicide Prevention Training and Policy Development Resources and Learning Opportunities - **CANCELLED!**

8. Teen and Youth Mental Health First Aid (MHFA): Helping Staff Identify, Understand, and Respond to Signs of Mental Illness and Substance Use Disorders in Youth

Facilitator: Terri Lavelly MS, QMHP

Location: *Owners’ Lounge (take the elevator to the second floor and turn right)*

9. Optional Team Time on Your Own

Locations (Optional): *Preston’s, Upper and Lower Lobbies, Northstar Promenade*

12:45 - 1:45 – Lunch, Celebrations, and Networking!

2:00-3:30 - Workshop Session 2:

J. Building and Sustaining Collective Ownership - CANCELLED!

K. Enhancing and Expanding the Targeted Level of PBIS. This workshop is designed for school teams to explore how to broaden and enhance the targeted level of PBIS. Teams will learn to keep universal features paramount while tightening up, enhancing, and developing new targeted systems, data, and practices that build upon the Universal level. Primary goals include solidifying teaming structures, using a function-based lens to expand your inventory of targeted interventions and supports, and solidifying targeted interventions that avoid the potential pitfalls of “universally individualized” interventions. Several classroom and school-wide examples will be provided.

Presenters: Amanda Babcock, Ken Kramberg, and Sherry Schoenberg, VTPBIS Trainers and Coaches

Location: *Preston's*

L. Running School Teams and Meetings Restoratively. Based on her experiences supporting schools, Camille believes successful implementation of any relationally based approach is hindered or helped by the degree to which the approach is practiced by the adults in the buildings or district. Too often schools implement positive and restorative approaches with students without first focusing on the culture, climate and practices of the staff. In this workshop, Camille will offer a model for running staff meetings, PLCs, and other committees based on the restorative “Balance in the Process.” She will offer real examples from schools she is currently working with to demonstrate what it looks and feels like to be part of a restorative culture and provide time to identify ways to make your meetings more restorative and effective.

Presenter: Camille Koosmann, Consultant and Coach, Starling Collaborative

Location: *Roundabout*

M. Making Schools Places of Belonging for ALL. Feeling a sense of belonging at school has powerful long and short-term implications for students’ positive social and academic outcomes. It is an essential protective function that can be nurtured and developed through educators’ actions, interactions, and the environments they create. As mental health challenges and absenteeism continue to grow at alarming rates, the need to strengthen positive and healthy connections between students and adults is paramount. In this interactive session, participants will explore the dimensions of belonging in school as described in the book, *Belonging in School*.

Presenter: Kym Asam, VTPBIS Trainer and Coach

Location: *Northstar II*

N. Centering Equity within PBIS (Part 2).

Location: *Escapade I and II*

O. Classroom Practices to Foster Social, Emotional, and Behavioral Growth (Part 2).

Location: *Gateway II*

P. Embedding Function-Based Thinking Within Restorative Approaches (Part 2).

Location: *Gateway I*

Q. Creating Effective Behavior Response Systems: An educator’s guide to the use of positive feedback and response strategies in schools (Part 2).

Location: *Northstar I*

R. Vermont Project AWARE Implementation Sessions (Part 2).

Location: *Owners’ Lounge (take the elevator to the second floor and turn right)*

3:30 – Adjourn