The "WHY" behind JFK’s Restorative Practice (RP) approach is to redefine what justice means and steer away from practices that contribute to the school-to-prison pipeline.

RP focuses on who has been hurt and what their needs are rather than the criminal justice paradigm of placing blame and punishment.

JFK believes in a restorative, not punitive, approach to discipline and behavior change. As such, JFK reallocated funding to expand its behavior response team to include 1 Dean of Students (Student Advisor), 2 Restorative Justice (RJ) coordinators, and 1 Behavior Interventionist who runs JFK’s "Skills for Success" room (traditionally referred to as an “in-school suspension” [ISS] room) where students are coached to develop plans to re-enter the classroom.

Affectionately known as the “BAM Squad”, based on the first names of the Dean and RJ coordinators Bill, Anthony & Mike (BAM), these team members are strategically placed on every floor of JFK, so they can immediately respond to any classroom or hallway-based situation.