An aerial photograph of a large crowd of people, many wearing red and white clothing, standing on a green lawn. They are arranged in a large, stylized peace symbol (a circle with a vertical line and two diagonal lines). The symbol is centered on the page, and the text is overlaid on it.

Peaceful Education Peaceful Educators

Dr. Jack Tierney

Excerpts from Keynotes & Presentations

PEACE: WHAT IT IS NOT!

Most folks define “peace” in terms of what it is not.

Peace is often described as form of “freedom from.”

- freedom from agitation
- freedom from civil war or with a foreign nation
- freedom from internal commotion
- freedom from quarrels, suits or disturbance
- freedom from fear, terror, anger, anxiety, etc.



Peace *is not* agitation, foreign or civil war, internal commotion, quarrels, suits or disturbances. And, it is not fear, terror, anger, anxiety... you know, those pesky human emotions.

DEFINING PEACE & PEACEFUL

“Peaceful” like “Peace” is often used in the negative.

Thus protests where millions of angry people carrying homemade signs marching through the streets with arms raised and fists clenched is described as “peaceful” if absent direct violence.



I will suggest a POSITIVE definition to help us think and talk about “peace” and “peaceful.”

Peace (noun) is a situation in which all living systems may achieve their potential according to their nature.

PEACEFUL EDUCATION

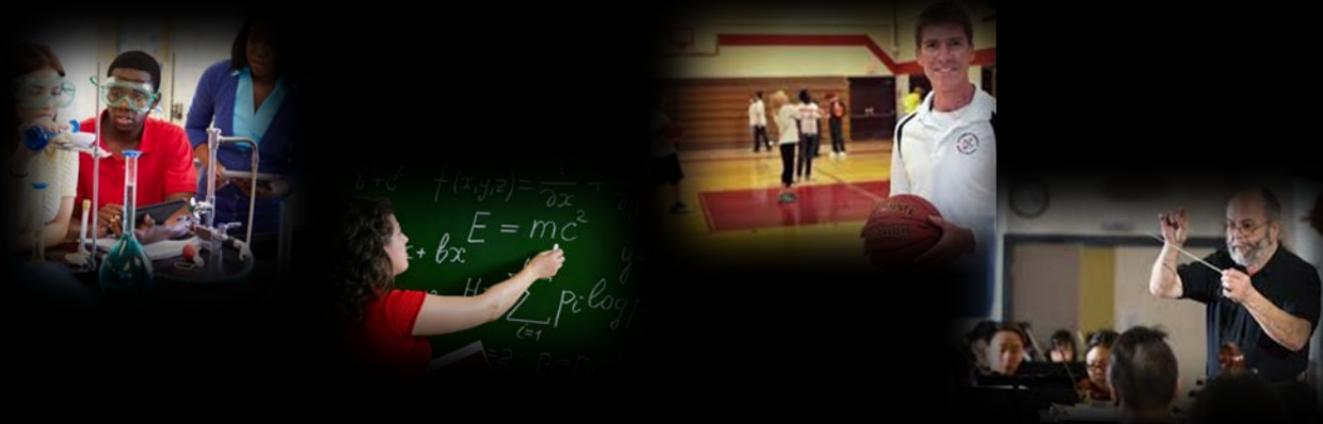
We think of “peaceful” as contexts “in the norm,” things we do to carry on our daily lives.

We think of “peaceful education” as contexts “in the educational norm,” things we do to carry on our daily teaching.



PEACEFUL EDUCATORS – PEACEFUL SUBJECTS

We think of “**peaceful educators**” as folks who may teach different “subjects” but for whom peace is a fundamental guide and philosophy underlying life and daily practice; thoughtful people who recognize that everything else that we teach- those other “subjects” – SCIENCE –MATH – PHYS ED – MUSIC – ET AL - **are most useful in peaceful contexts.**



A PEACE-LIKE MUSIC

Because music is so highly valued in our culture, so deeply integrated into the fabric of our daily lives, we have deemed it not only worthy of “study” but really important for a good life.

While a few some folks are “amusical” (without music), most folks are naturally inclined to be musical as makers and/or takers.

Music accompanies our lives from the moment we awake until the moment we sleep and it continues to echo in our brains even as we do.



A MUSIC-LIKE PEACE

Imagine a state where peace is so highly valued, so deeply integrated into the fabric of our daily lives, that we deem it not only worthy of study but really important for a good life.

While it would probably be true that some folks would be “apeaceful” (without peace), most folks would be naturally inclined to be peaceful as makers and/or takers.

What a world there could be if, like music,
peace accompanies our lives from the moment
we awake until the moment we sleep
and continues to echo in our brains even as we do.

This is the world that peaceful educators imagine.





PEACE



WAR

Imagine!



Presentation/Keynote: Educating in a Time of Student Empowerment:

In this engaging keynote/presentation Dr. Jack Tierney describes his four-step “FEEL – THINK - PREP – ACT” framework for educating in a time of student empowerment drawing on research and focusing on “big ideas” and “do-able” applications.

Workshop I: Educator Beliefs / Articulation and Consensus Building:

Dr. Jack Tierney engages educators in active discussion around salient issues such as: school shootings and violence, student activism, curricular vs social responsibilities, belief systems, brain-based learning, and facilitates consensus building on school-based responses.

Workshop II: Designing for Student Empowerment: Activity/Lesson Development:

Dr. Tierney guides educators through the process of designing standards-based learning activities, lessons, and curricular modifications that empower students to speak up and participate in civil society.

Workshop III: Facilitating Student Empowerment: Programs and Methods:

Dr. Tierney summarizes recent research and program development and facilitates planning, preparing, and supporting school-sponsored social-conscious student activity.

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