

# TST Weekly Bulletin

Tompkins-Seneca-Tioga BOCES

**TST BOCES**  
TOMPKINS • SENECA • TIOGA

## School Improvement Services

*Leading and supporting school communities in their efforts to provide the best possible learning environment for all students.*



### Barry Derfel

Assistant Superintendent  
for Instruction

607-257-1551, ext. 1004  
bderfel@tstboces.org  
T: @barry\_derfel

TST BOCES  
555 Warren Road  
Ithaca, NY 14850

## FOCUS OF THE WEEK

### Deep Thinking

This week, let's push our students to think intensively and critically. Ask them to justify, revise, elaborate on, and/or evaluate their thinking. You might want to do this during class discussion or incorporate these prompts into a written assignment.

## FOR TEACHERS

### Arts Education Input Sought

Arts educators, please see the following message from NYSED, and encourage students, colleagues, families, and community to provide input:

“As the State develops a comprehensive approach to the revitalization of arts education in NY, we plan to share a DRAFT Statewide Strategic Plan for the Arts with a broad cross-section of those who have a stake in education for their feedback. The Statewide Strategic Plan for the Arts will serve as a planning and implementation guide to support the advancement and adoption of the revised New York State P-12 Dance, Media Arts, Music, Theatre and Visual Arts Learning Standards. The adoption of new standards signifies New York State's understanding that the Arts are essential for a well-rounded complete education and also contribute to raising overall student achievement. Collaboration and participation of all community members, as their expertise shall warrant, will provide the most effective avenue to achieving the mission.”



A link to the draft plan and survey will be available on the [NYSED arts page](#) from Jan. 8 through Feb. 12. Your survey responses will be used to revise the draft plan and guide our steps in the revision of arts standards and guidance materials. We thank you for your participation and look forward to your comments.

### Quote of the Week

“The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education.”

-- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

THERE'S MORE ↓

tstboces.org

## FOR PRINCIPALS

### Responsive Classroom Training

OCM BOCES will host responsive classroom trainings. There will be four sessions of the Level 1 trainings beginning Jan. 11. The cost is \$1,210. An advanced course is also being offered in two sessions starting Feb. 25, for \$780. Both trainings address pre-kindergarten through sixth grade needs.

### Learning Institute

The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC), in collaboration with the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, sponsors a residential hands-on learning institute focusing on math, science and technology for high school students and teachers from New York State's Appalachian Region (Allegany, Broome, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Chemung, Chenango, Cortland, Delaware, Otsego, Schoharie, Schuyler, Steuben, Tioga and Tompkins counties). This year's two-week institute for high school students and high school teachers will be held July 9- 22. Applications must be received by NYSED (Office of Curriculum and Instruction; Room 318 EB; 89 Washington Avenue; Albany, NY 12234) on or before March 1.

In addition, the ARC will also offer a week-long summer academy for middle school students. The 2016 Middle School Summer Science Academy will be held July 17-22. Applications must be received by NYSED on or before March 1. Application forms and additional information may be found [here](#).

### Blueprint for Improved Results for Students with Disabilities

Click [here](#) to access important information that relates to the work we do with all students, including students with disabilities.

### Integrated Algebra Regents Exam Clarification



To assist those students who had already begun or completed instruction in an integrated algebra course aligned to the Mathematics Core Curriculum (Revised 2005) prior to September 2013, two special administrations of the Regents Examination in Integrated Algebra (2005 Learning Standard) will be provided. Consistent with §100.5(g)(1)(ii)(b) of the Commissioner's regulations, only students who first began or completed instruction in an integrated algebra course aligned to the Mathematics Core Curriculum (Revised 2005) prior to September 2013 may take the Regents Examination in Integrated Algebra during these special administrations. Click [here](#) for more information.

### Algebra 2 Regents Information

Click [here](#) for information regarding the Algebra 2 Regents examination.

## LINKS, ARTICLES & BOOKS

- [9/11 Tribute Center - Teacher awards, resources, etc.](#)
- Instructional Rounds in Education (City, Ellmore, Fiarman, and Teitel, 2015)
- *Constructivist Media Decoding in the Social Studies: Leveraging the New Standards for Educational Change*; Chris Sperry, 2015

Contact Barry if you would like to borrow a book or article.

## UPCOMING WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES

### 2016 Choices Leadership Institute

This institute offers participants opportunities to examine instructional strategies and best practices to engage students in international issues. Global Refugees: Human Rights, Responsibilities and Responses will guide educators in teaching these issues. Click [here](#) for more information.



### First Aid for Coaches

This initial first aid course runs from Jan. 20-28 at TST BOCES. It is approved by the New York State Education Department and has been designed to meet the requirements for



coaches for all public school athletic programs. The initial course is the prerequisite for the 5 ½ hour refresher course. You must attend all four sessions to be certified. Find details and register in MLP.

### Technology Tools Workshop

A workshop, "Introduction to Technology Tools to Monitor Student Learning & Provide Feedback," will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Jan. 27. This full-day opportunity is designed to enhance educator knowledge of strategies for monitoring student learning and providing feedback. Participants will be introduced to simple, easy-to-use tech tools that will enable them to measure student understanding, give high-quality, real-time feedback, and teach 21st-century skills. Find details and register in MLP.



## NATIONAL YOUTH SCIENCE CAMP

The online application to attend the 2016 National Youth Science Camp (NYSC) is now available [here](#). Two graduating high school students will be selected to represent New York at the all-expenses paid honors program, which will be held from June 15 through July 10. Please visit the NYSC website and follow the instructions for submitting the [online application](#). All applications and all supporting documents/forms must be submitted online no later than 6 p.m. Feb. 17, 2016.

The NYSC is hosted and operated by the [National Youth Science Foundation](#). Click [here](#) for more information about the NYSC.

# TST

## SIS Weekly Bulletin

Tompkins-Seneca-Tioga BOCES

School Improvement Services

*Dr. Jeffrey Matteson, District Superintendent*

*Barry Derfel, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction*

[tstboces.org](http://tstboces.org)