

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.



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FOCUS OF THE WEEK

Core Values

What lies at the heart of your motivation to work with young people? What energizes and motivates your best self? Let's spend some time this week thinking about, and talking with our colleagues about, our core values, as educators.

FOR TEACHERS

Tonight! 1984 National Screening Day

Tonight! - 1984 National Screening Day, with Cyndy Scheibe and Chris Sperry, the directors of Ithaca College's media literacy program, leading an interactive discussion about education, critical thinking and media literacy in the age of Fake News. More information is available on the [attached flier](#).

How a Classroom Game Becomes an Embedded Assessment

In this piece, C. Ross Flatt explains how "in Galactic Mappers, a social studies game about physical geography, students compete in teams to create the most geographically diverse continent in a shared hemisphere. This group mapping project encourages students to collaborate, design, iterate and present a finished product in a single class period." Read the [full article here](#).

Formative Assessment is Transformational

In this piece, Andrew Miller explains, "I think formative assessment is one of the single most important things that teachers can do -- and already do -- for their students. In fact, great teachers use formative assessment whether or not they know it. Formative assessment may not be new, but it certainly has begun to crystallize into particular elements and components that are currently in the spotlight. When teachers practice great formative assessment, it can be a transformational experience for them as practitioners and, more importantly, for their students." Read the [full article, here](#).

What is Culturally Responsive Teaching?

Watch this [brief video](#) with Sonia Nieto.

Why is it important for faculty to employ culturally responsive teaching practices?

Watch this [brief video](#) by Dr. Geneva Gay.

LINKS, ARTICLES & BOOKS

- [Edutopia's Formative Assessment Resources](#)
- *Using Math Apps for Improving Student Learning: An Exploratory Study in an Inclusive Fourth Grade Classroom* (Zhang, Trussell, Gallegos, and Asam 2015)
- [Data Wise](#), (Boudett, City, Mumane 2005).

Contact Barry to borrow a book or article

Quote of the Week

"Integrity is a fundamental consistency between one's values, goals, and actions. At the simplest level it means standing for something, having a significant commitment and exemplifying this commitment in your behavior."
-- Evans, Robert (1996)

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES

Offered through our folks here at TST BOCES

Tech Voyagers

12:30-3:30 p.m. | April 13 | TST BOCES

If you have a vision or idea for meaningful technology integration, but need assistance in making it happen, then consider joining the Tech Voyagers! Visit the Tech Voyager website for more information. Specific learning targets may vary by participant. However in general, participants will: describe the instructional goal tied to student learning; identify technology-based learning goals necessary to successful implementation; and apply new technology knowledge to create an implementation plan, including the type of support needed for success. Thursday, April 13 from 12:30-3:30 p.m. More information and [sign up in mlp](#).

Offered through our folks here at TST BOCES

Best New Young Adult Books for Grades 6-12

The workshop, Best New Young Adult Books for Grades 6-12, featuring Kathleen Odean, sponsored by the TST BOCES and Cayuga Onondaga BOCES School Library Systems, has been rescheduled for Thursday, May 18 at SUNY Cortland, and we're hoping you'll join us! In this practical, full-day workshop, participants will learn about activities, websites, print resources and display ideas for motivating teen readers as well. Kathleen's trademark 100-page handout that's filled with resources, booklists and activity ideas will also be available to all participants. [Sign up in mlp](#).

FOR PRINCIPALS

Lucy West Videos to Inspire Meaningful Observation and Evaluation Practices

- [Descriptive Feedback Principal to Teachers](#)
- [Leadership Coaching and Teaching](#)
- [Moving the Learning Forward](#)
- [Accountable talking and listening is fractal](#)
- [Talk into action](#)
- [The role of the principal](#)
- [Types of talk](#)

No, It's Not Okay: Addressing Hurtful Language and Bias in School Settings

A Community Teach-In. Wed. April 5 from 7-9 p.m. at the Sperry Center, Room 105, SUNY Cortland. A panel of teachers from local districts will discuss incidents of bias they have experienced in their schools and share strategies for addressing these issues in the classroom. Panel will be followed by audience Q&A and a series of breakout conversations drawing on the collective expertise of all participants. All are welcome. More information can be found on the [attached flier](#).

The War to End all Wars: The Centennial of World War One

A Symposium for Teachers Sponsored by TST BOCES and the Johnson Museum of Art, facilitated by Carol Hockett and Maryterese Pasquale Bowen. Apr 7, 2017 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Herbert F. Johnson Museum. World War I shaped the twentieth century. We will use the exhibition "The War to End All Wars: Artists and the Great War" currently at the Johnson Museum of Art at Cornell University as a lens through which to examine many facets of that war. More information and [sign up in mlp](#).

Connecting, Collaborating, and Celebrating the Art of Teaching (CCCAT) Conference

Conference (For CollegeNow instructors in the high schools) CCCAT features workshops on instructional practices across a variety of disciplines, led by faculty from Broome, Cayuga, Corning, Finger Lakes, Mohawk Valley, Onondaga and Tompkins Cortland Community College. This full-day conference is being held at TC3's main campus in Dryden, with the support of TST BOCES. The keynote speaker is Dr. Samuel Sommers of Tufts University, presenting on "The Science of Implicit Bias: Implications and Strategies for the Classroom". Conference details, workshop descriptions and keynote speaker background can be found on the [CCCAT website](#).

Register by April 7; preference is given to instructors who cannot attend the CollegeNow Conference in August. Registration will be confirmed by Apr 14. CollegeNow is covering the \$40 conference fee, which includes a continental breakfast and lunch. Contact Victoria Zeppelin at vcz@tc3.edu for more information.

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Barry Derfel, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction

SIS Weekly Bulletin

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