

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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During the summer, the TST School Improvement Services Weekly Bulletin will be sent out on a bi-weekly basis.

FOCUS OF THE WEEK

Why School?

As we transition from the school year routine to the summer routine, it's a good time to rethink the purpose of what we've spent the last ten months doing. This week, let's ask our students, our colleagues, and ourselves this simple, yet profoundly important question: "What is the purpose of school?"

Supporting All Students:

[New York State Center for School Safety](#)

[Three Ways to Plan for Diverse Learners: What Teachers Do](#)

[Critical Practices for Anti-bias Education: Instruction](#)

[Identity Safe Classrooms](#)

lennard j. davis – [Disability Studies](#)

Resources connected to our 2017 – 2018 Regional Priorities:

Supporting students' mental, social, and emotional health – [Social and Emotional Learning Research Review](#)

Student-driven learning – [Student-Centered Learning Research Collaborative](#)

Questioning and discussion techniques – [Danielson Rubric Component 3b.](#)

Engaging students in learning – [Danielson Rubric Component 3c.](#)

Using assessment in instruction – [Danielson Rubric Component 3d.](#)

FOR TEACHERS

[The Big Fresh June 10, 2017 Surf Lesson](#)

[My 11-year-old son auditioned at Julliard, and we both learned a lot about how top performers practice](#)

[How Do We Help Students Find Their Why?](#)

LINKS, ARTICLES & BOOKS

https://www.mindtools.com/pages/article/newTMC_91.htm

[Stereotype Threat: A Conversation with Claude Steele Young, Gifted, and Black](#), (Perry, Steele, Hilliard 2004)

Contact Barry to borrow a book or article

THERE'S MORE ↓

Quote of the Week

"Schooling should have major impacts not only on the enhancement of knowing and understanding, but also on the enhancement of character: intellectual character, moral character, civic character, and performance character."
- Shields, 2011

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES

Offered through our folks here at TST BOCES

Looking for more PD opportunities?

Click [here](#) to access the PD catalog online.

Summer Unit Planning for All Learners

This work will be participant-centered. Our role will be to help you bring together the principles of Universal Design for Learning and Understanding by Design to create units that are inclusive, affirming, and relevant for all learners. We are offering two sessions of this three-day series. Click [here](#) for more details. Sign up at the following links for [Series One](#) (July 10, 11, and 12) and/or [Series Two](#) (August 8, 9, and 10).

Integrating The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness into the curriculum

5 to 7 Teachers from across the TST BOCES region are invited to participate in this project. This group of teachers will work together, with facilitation from the TST BOCES School Improvement Services team, to either plan a unit with the New Jim Crow as an anchor text, or to build the text and its core ideas into current units the teachers have already created. Teachers will earn a stipend of \$250.00 for completion of this project. Expectations include:

- Reading of the full text and participation in a facilitated discussion of the text.
- Three-days of facilitated work time with TST BOCES Instructional Specialists and/or Assistant Superintendent for Instruction in July/August 2017 to get started on the project, utilizing the principles of Understanding by Design ([UbD](#)) and Universal Design for Learning ([UDL](#))
- Completion of a full unit plan, or integration of the text into multiple unit plans, prior to the end of August, 2017.
- Teaching the unit during the 2017 – 2018 school year.
- Reflection with TST BOCES Instructional Specialists and/or Assistant Superintendent for Instruction on the ways in which the delivery of the unit/units matched the intended student outcomes, and the ways in which the unit/units might be revised to improve these outcomes.

National Board Certification Awareness Information Session

June 26th from 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM here at TST BOCES. Created by teachers, for teachers, National Board Certification is the profession's mark of accomplished teaching. This workshop will introduce you to the process of National Board, and encourage you to explore its many possibilities and benefits -- just in time for the 2017-18 cycle!!

For more information and to sign up go to [mlp](#). Click [here](#) for NBPTS website.

FOR PRINCIPALS

NYSED's Office of Student Support Services and the New York State Center for School Safety (NYSCFSS) will be offering training in August 2017 regarding the new online reporting of data regarding School Safety and the Educational Climate (also known as Violent and Disruptive Incident Reporting and Dignity for All Students Act, or VADIR and DASA). Registration information is available at www.nyscfss.org

BEDS IMF will be collected in a new online application for Fall 2017. This [website](#) has the latest updates. PDF versions of the data collection forms, instructions as well as a summary of changes in the collection are posted at this site.

Reimagining Schools with Will Richardson

District leadership teams (innovative administrators and teachers) are invited to SUNY Cortland on August 14th, when Will Richardson will challenge us to chart a path from "Old School to Bold School". Explore the why and how of deep learning at this session, and move from inspiration to action with the help of follow-up support from TST BOCES, OCM BOCES, and SUNY Cortland. Over the course of next year, we will collaborate to help districts further their work to begin, implement, and or sustain their vision for a Learning School. Sign up now in [mlp](#).

Balancing Math Instruction with Technology: The Potential of Zearn

Zearn Math is a complete math program that provides standards aligned math lessons, supports individual learning, and is based on Eureka Math / Engage New York. Lessons focus on three critical components: deep understanding, fluency, and problem-solving. With Zearn Math, students learn new concepts in two ways: through Independent Digital Lessons and Small Group Instruction with their teacher. In this professional learning opportunity, participants will gain foundational knowledge of how to balance their daily instruction of the Eureka Math / Engage New York curriculum with the interactive Zearn platform. Participants will experience a structured math lesson from the student perspective, using hands-on manipulatives and teacher guided instruction connected with the related independent Zearn tasks. Participants will also consider Zearn data reports to analyze student learning and make instructional recommendations. Finally, participants will prepare for the upcoming school year by setting up a Zearn classroom connected to the first module of study. Sign up in [mlp](#).

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES

Offered by other organizations and/or our consultants

Looking for more PD opportunities?

Click [here](#) to access the PD catalog online.

[2017 Engage, Educate, Empower EVERYONE Inclusion Conference](#)

Provides opportunities for building the skills and knowledge that teachers, educational support personnel, administrators, parents, and families need to change the culture of our schools. This is not just a “sit and get” conference. The nationally recognized keynote speakers will engage, educate and empower us. The breakout sessions, led by local practitioners, will work with us to develop concrete steps to move inclusive work in our classrooms, schools, and school districts forward. Sponsored by the Ithaca City School District.

A Complete Mindfulness Curriculum to Use in the Elementary Classroom.

This one day workshop will provide you with a twelve week, step-by-step curriculum to introduce effective mindfulness practices to your elementary class next year. You will learn the benefits of mindfulness as demonstrated in recent research and you will understand how mindfulness in general -- and meditation, mindful movements and mindfulness-based interventions in particular -- actually works neurologically to help your students become more positive, kinder and better monitors of their emotions and reactions. We will practice a series of fifteen to twenty-minute classroom sessions, and then suggest ways to elaborate on them and use modifications of the activities for special situations. Practices include mindfulness of the body and senses, compassion and helping others, handling strong emotions like anger, jealousy, and sadness, impermanence, generosity, building better relationships, acceptance, and of course core skills like being aware, eschewing judgment, “touching joy” and being grateful. Sign up in [mlp](#).

CiTi BOCES is offering A Day of Mindfulness for Educators

“Research has shown that in order to experience the benefits of mindfulness for our students, we must begin with ourselves. Developing our own presence and mindfulness is, in itself, an intervention for our students! Please join us for this day of exploration of various modes of mindfulness and discussion on implementation in our schools.” Click [here](#) for more details, and [Register in MyLearningPlan](#)

NEWS & NOTES

The Excelsior Scholarship, Making College Possible

Earlier this year, Governor Cuomo and the State Legislature enacted the Excelsior Scholarship program, which is administered by the Higher Education Services Corporation. The following information is provided by the Governor’s office about the program’s application, which is now available. “The Excelsior Scholarship makes New York State public universities tuition-free for families making up to \$125,000 per year once fully phased in. The scholarship is available to students attending a SUNY or CUNY school starting this fall whose families make up to \$100,000. The Excelsior Scholarship application is now available on the [Higher Education Services Corporation website](#). The application is open until July 21. You can find more information, including FAQs and a sign-up form to receive email alerts about the scholarship, at the [HESC Excelsior Scholarship FAQs page](#). As an education leader in your community, please share this information widely and encourage students to apply.

Teachers from South Seneca, Ithaca, Lansing, and Trumansburg are invited to apply now for the 2017 - 2018 Teacher Research Fellows Group.

The Teacher Research Fellows Inquiry Group is a small community of teachers from across the TST-BOCES region engaged in systematic study about their own teaching. Teachers who serve as 2017-2018 Teacher Research Fellows will find the opportunity to conduct inquiries in response to pressing questions they develop about their classrooms, curriculum, and students’ learning. In exchange for their work, Teacher Research Fellows will receive a \$500 stipend at the conclusion of the year. More information can be found [here](#).