

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

Evaluation

This week, let's spend some time carefully reflecting on the evaluation criteria we are using for student work that we are reviewing. Are the criteria we are using fully aligned with the intended outcomes we had hoped students would achieve?

TST REGIONAL PRIORITIES FOR NEXT SCHOOL YEAR

Thank you all for your input regarding your own practices in relation to the components of the Danielson Rubric. The Instructional Planning Council used this data, along with reflecting on our own successes and challenges this year, to set Regional Priorities for next year. We decided to do what the research indicates is most likely to lead to success - rather than identifying 5 new Priorities to focus on, we chose to continue deepening our regional understanding of the same five priorities that we have been working on this school year.

During the 2016 – 2017, we will work on the same five priorities through the lens of Highly Effective, with a commitment to collecting, analyzing, and using student and educator data to guide our work. The Five TST Regional Priorities are: Designing Student Assessment, Establishing a Culture for Learning, Using Questioning and Discussion Techniques, Using Assessment in Instruction, and Growing and Developing Professionally.

More information about the Regional Priorities can be found [here](#).

LINKS, ARTICLES & BOOKS

- [Circle of Security Project](#)
- [Ewing award winners share their project updates](#)
- [Making Number Talks Matter: Developing Mathematical Practices and Deepening Understanding, Grades 4-10](#) (Humphreys & Parker, 2015).
- *Career and Technical Education in High School: Does It Improve Student Outcomes?* by Shaun M. Dougherty

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

THERE'S MORE ↓

Quote of the Week

“Regardless of how open-ended the task and how many product/performance options are provided, it is imperative that we identify a common set of evaluative criteria....”
-- Tomlinson & McTighe

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES

Making Number Talks Matter

This independent professional development opportunity invites participant to read about, reflect upon, and consider implementing this nationally renowned teaching strategy highlighted in [Making Number Talks Matter: Developing Mathematical Practices and Deepening Understanding, Grades 4-10](#) (Humphreys & Parker, 2015). Number Talks are five- to fifteen-minute classroom conversations around purposefully crafted computation problems that are solved mentally. They support instruction of both the Common Core Math Standards and Mathematical Practices. For more information, see the attached [flier](#).

New York State Reading Association 2016 Conference

The Power of Literacy. Rochester, the home of abolitionist Frederick Douglass and women's rights advocate Susan B. Anthony, is the host of this year's NYSRA Conference. Over the two days of November 13 and 14, the conference will provide over 50 presentations that will help you bring "The Power of Literacy" to your students. For more information, [see attached](#).

Edcamp Leadership

Edcamp Leadership, an international edcamp movement taking place on July 11, will be held at three sites throughout New York State. Edcamp Leadership is built around supporting all educators as they continue to develop their leadership skills. One site will be on Long Island (in Riverhead), a second site will be at WSWHE BOCES, and PNW BOCES will host a third site. For more information and to register, you can visit the [Edcamp Leadership NY site](#)

MyLearningPlan Team Talks.

Audience: District ConfigAdmins, Central Office Administrators and Clerical Support Staff. Date: 6/8/2016. Meeting Time: 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM, starting with a 1 hr. lunch and New Product Demo. Location: TST BOCES.

The purpose is to support each organization's MLP team in deepening the team's collective knowledge about our systems, in order to empower the team to fully maximize all applicable features in support of the district's goals and best practices. Please note that MLP TeamTalks are not "training" sessions. For training opportunities, please see the MLP Academy link on your DistrictAdmin tab or contact our Support team at info@mylearningplan.com.

Effective and Practical Co-Teaching

This workshop is for teams new to co-teaching or teams that will be co-teaching together for the first time. It will focus on the research and theory of inclusive education, the six models of co-teaching, individual and team assessment and planning for collaboration, and tips for using co-planning time most efficiently. We will explore how Specially-Designed Instruction can be effectively implemented in the co-taught classroom. Updated research on effective models for elementary and secondary teams will be discussed. There will be some dedicated time for team planning. For more information, see the attached [flier](#).

UDL/UBD Primer Session - Understanding by Design

(UbD) is a unit planning process that utilizes backwards design to create comprehensive instructional units that focus on essential understanding in an area of study. Participants will learn about the three guidelines of Universal Design for Learning (UDL) and how to proactively reduce the barriers that interfere with student learning in your unit planning. By attending to these guidelines in the UbD planning process, you can increase access and engagement for all learners through a differentiated unit. This full day session will allow participants to gain a thorough understanding of the components of a UbD unit plan, the UDL guidelines, and how they interact during the unit planning process. [Register here](#). For more information, see the attached [flier](#).

Setting Up Your Progress Monitoring for IEP's.

This full-day workshop will allow IEP case managers to set up progress monitoring systems for their special education caseload for the upcoming school year. Bring your IEPs and design a Progress Monitoring System that will map out the progress monitoring needs for your entire school year. Spend time reviewing goals, creating a calendar, gathering resources, and getting organized before the school year begins. We will review quality IEP goals and provide time to get individual feedback on the best ways to monitor your own goals. In addition, there will be resources for utilizing curriculum-based measurement and digital platforms for monitoring and graphing. For more information, see the attached [flier](#).

continued on next page

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES *continued*

Make and Take Progress Monitoring Resources.

This workday is intended for special education teachers and related service providers to collaborate, collect, and create progress monitoring materials for the upcoming school year. You did not have to participate in the school-year series to join the summer work! Groups of teachers will work together to find and create sets of math probes, fluency passages, banks of word problems, data collection sheets, and other types of progress monitoring materials at various levels. Everything created in this workshop will be stored digitally for all participants to access in the future. For more information, see the attached [flier](#).

FOR TEACHERS

- **Demonstration Classrooms - What is a demonstration classroom?** A demonstration classroom serves as an in-house, job-embedded professional development model that takes place during the normal school day, framed by a pre-observation meeting and a debriefing session facilitated by a trained instructional coach. Demonstration classroom teachers are not expected to be perfect in their practice. They are taking a risk and are willing to open their classrooms to colleagues so that all have access to participate in non-evaluative discussions regarding pedagogical practice. More information, including an application, can be found in the [attached document](#).
- **Talkback Tuesday: The Man Who Knew Infinity Today (May 17th) at 7:00 p.m.** Join us for a special discussion and Q & A following the 7 pm screening of *The Man Who Knew Infinity*, featuring Ravi Ramakrishna and Steven Strogatz of Cornell University's Mathematics Department. Ramakrishna and Strogatz will bring copies of Ramanujan's handwritten notebooks, which feature prominently in the movie, and will be happy to answer questions about him and his work as well as the work of the Jeremy Irons character, GH Hardy.

FOR PRINCIPALS

- *5 Principles of Extraordinary Math Teaching*, by [Dan Finkel](#) | [@MathforLove](#) on Twitter. To learn more watch this [TEDx Talk](#)
- [Principal Network](#)
- [The Learning Principal](#)
- [NAESP's Center for New Principals](#)
- [C3 Teachers](#)

NEWS & NOTES

Cans Along Cayuga

This is open to Elementary Schools across Tompkins County (hopefully all TST Schools next year) and will culminate on June 3rd at the Ithaca Festival Parade. Participating schools will have the opportunity to run a two-week long food drive and will be recognized for their contribution to their community. Cayuga Radio Group and United Way of Tompkins County will help promote the food drive and provide informational materials for the schools. Participating schools can either bring their food to the Ithaca Festival Parade and have it collected along the parade route or have it collected directly from the school by Cayuga Radio Group. All collected food will be distributed by United Way to food pantries and agencies across Tompkins County.

To participate in this year's Cans Along Cayuga Food Drive please register on our event page [here](#). The deadline for registering for this event is May 20th. If you have any questions regarding this event please contact Elijah Wohl by email at ewohl@uwtc.org or by phone at [\(607\) 272-6286](tel:(607)272-6286). Thank you for your support of our community.



TST

SIS Weekly Bulletin

Tompkins-Seneca-Tioga BOCES

School Improvement Services

Dr. Jeffrey Matteson, District Superintendent
Barry Derfel, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction

tstboces.org