

# 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

### Affirmation

This week, try to add three new items to your classroom, bus, workspace or office that affirm the dignity and strength of students and families who are not economically privileged. These could be posters, books, calendars, poems, sculptures, figurines, pictures, etc. The challenge is to choose items that testify to the broad range of experiences, accomplishments and contributions of students and families who do not have economic privilege.

## NEWS AND NOTES

### Girls Summer Tech Camp

Girls entering grades 6-8 are invited to participate in a Girls Summer Tech Camp at TST BOCES this summer. Camp cost is just \$90 and scholarships are available. The first camp is for girls entering sixth grade and will run from July 11-15. The second camp is for girls entering seventh or eighth grades and runs from July 18-22. Both camps will be held from 8 a.m. to noon. For more information, click [here](#) or call Sunshine Miller, coordinator of Cooperative Enrichment, at 607-257-1555 ext. 1013. You can apply through the [website](#) or through the [application link](#).

### NYSAWA Annual Conference

The New York State Association for Women in Administration's annual conference will be held July 12-13. This opportunity is "a call to leaders looking to enhance their professional practice and network with colleagues from across the state." Learning Forward New York is partnering with NYSAWA to conduct a workshop on Strengthening Leadership Through Reflective Practice at the conference. Click [here](#) for more information.

### [MEET OUR TEAM](#)

Learn more about the people who make up our School Improvement Services Team.

## LINKS, ARTICLES & BOOKS

- [The Paraprofessionals Handbook for Effective Support in Inclusive Classrooms](#)
- [NEA Paraeducator Handbook](#)
- [Efficacy of Teachers Training Paraprofessionals to Implement Peer Support Arrangements](#)
- [Step Up, Speak Out!](#)
- [Reversing the Learning Crisis](#)

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

### Quote of the Week

"[Students] come to the classroom first looking for things like affirmation, affiliation, accomplishment and autonomy [Tomlinson, 2003]. They are looking for adults who accept them, value them, guide them, and represent for them what it means to be a competent and caring adult."  
-- Tomlinson & McTighe, 2006

THERE'S MORE ↓

tstboces.org

## FOR PRINCIPALS

### Next Generation Science Standards -- Leading the Implementation Process

This overview is designed for school leaders and was developed in consultation with states, districts and principals. The resource underscores the principal's crucial role in promoting quality science education and offers practical strategies that can be incorporated into existing school plans. It highlights key NGSS instructional and conceptual shifts and contains links to additional implementation information, based on the Framework for K-12 Science Education. Click [here](#) for more information.

### Relational Leaders

Fred Ende writes "A number of recent events -- both professional and personal -- have forced me to think about the importance of relationships. We all occupy different leadership frames, but the lens I wear most frequently is the one of "relational leader." Read his piece - [The Rule of 3 P's](#).

### NYSSED News

The New York State Education Department announced the release of questions from this year's Grade 3-8 English language arts and mathematics assessments, as well as the availability of instructional reports across the state. Please click [here](#) for a letter from Commissioner Elia, along with the specific items.

## UPCOMING WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES

### Utilizing Evidence-Based Practice to Support Student Behavior

This two-day training will be held Aug. 2-3 at OCM BOCES. Participants will learn how to develop effective classroom management systems utilizing evidence-based practices. Strategies will include maximizing structure, teaching expectations, increasing academic engagement and creating continuums for responding to appropriate and inappropriate behavior. Click [here](#) for more information or to register.

### Understanding by Design Primer Session

Understanding by Design is a unit planning process that utilizes backward 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. Participants will receive a \$100 stipend from the Teacher Professional Development Network at SUNY Cortland. Register [here](#) or click [here](#) for more information.



workshop

### Google Summer Camps

Be a part of TST Google Summer Camp! Join us for an energetic day of learning, creating and collaborating with Google Apps for Education. Whether you are a novice or expert user, multiple entry points allow you to invigorate and excite your teaching and learning. All sessions are facilitated by technology integration specialists and a Google certified trainer. Click [here](#) for more details.

### Facing History -- Choosing to Participate

This conference will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. July 12, 13 and 14 at SUNY Cortland. It focuses on civic choices -- the decisions people make about themselves and others in their community, nation and world. The choices people make, both large and small, may not seem important at the time, but little by little they shape us as individuals and responsible global citizens. This series will directly connected to the NYS Social Studies Framework and C3 Framework. For more information, click [here](#).



More  
PD  
Options

If you're looking for even more professional development opportunities, please check out our catalog via My Learning Plan. The catalog contains dozens of workshops, trainings and conferences. Click [here](#) to access the catalog online.



SIS Weekly Bulletin

Tompkins-Seneca-Tioga BOCES

School Improvement Services

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

tstboces.org