

# 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

### Student-Centered Learning

As we prepare to start a new school year, let's plan some ways that we will purposefully work to learn from our students' families, to complement what we already do to help them learn from us.

## FOR TEACHERS

### Using Data to Inform Instruction

The 12 Regional Information Centers have been collaborating in an effort to provide all school districts with a common report package that can provide educators, across the state, with a common framework to discuss effective teaching strategies. This October, Lori DeForest from our Regional Information Center (CNYRIC) will be coming to each of the Principal Councils and to the Instructional Planning Council to share the different kinds of reports available and help us think through how we can best use these reports. In November, Lori will return to TST to provide technical training to interested teachers, administrators, and other educators on how to access these reports. In early December, Lori and members of our TST School Improvement Services Team will co-facilitate sessions that focus on how we can use data to promote inquiry, generate meaningful conversations, and help us increase success rates for all students. Specific dates and details will be shared in late September.

- View the presentation by Cornell's Mario Enaudi Center for International Studies about resources that teachers in our region can access to further your own learning and to use with students. **View the presentation [here](#)**
- Cornell Institute for Biology - The Cornell Institute for Biology Teachers was created in 1989 to support high school biology teachers with workshops that introduced them to new content, hands-on field tested lab activities and access to expensive molecular biology equipment and models. **For more information, visit their [website](#)**

## FOR PRINCIPALS

- Associate Principal/Assistant Principal/Dean of Students Monthly Council. TST BOCES is considering offering a monthly AP/Dean of Students council, similar to our Principal Councils, but facilitated to meet the unique needs of AP's and Deans. Send an email to Barry ([bderfel@tstboces.org](mailto:bderfel@tstboces.org)) if you are interested in participating.

- [20 Education Administrator Blogs](#)

THERE'S MORE ↓

### Quote of the Week

"The concept of family funds of knowledge has influenced [my] thinking about connecting schools and homes more than perhaps any other educational effort... The goal of this way of learning from families has been, for nearly two decades, 'to alter perceptions of working-class or poor communities and to view these households primarily in terms of their strengths and resources (funds of knowledge)'"

— Allen, JoBeth, 2007

# UPCOMING WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES

## Using Assessment in Instruction – Independent Study.

Try something different! Educators will earn 6 Professional Development Hours for successfully completing this independent study, which focuses on formative assessment. Use online articles and videos to learn more about formative assessment. Then apply what you learn in the classroom and gather & reflect on evidence to show how your application of this learning has impacted your students. Sign up [here](#)

## Managing Student Behavior in the Library

For Library clerks and Librarians. Youth Development Coordinator Jennifer Astles-Steinmetz will provide the first of four sessions designed to increase awareness of how and why the Win-Win Discipline Framework can help to identify the difference between disruptive behaviors and student positions, just what the seven student positions are, and preventive strategies for each. The textbook, Win-Win Discipline, will be provided and will support all four workshops presented this school year. Sign up [here](#)

## Taking Informed Action

Choosing to Participate focuses on civic choices—the decisions we make about ourselves and others in our community, nation, and world. The choices we 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.

Educators will have direct support in aligning this work with New York State's Social Studies Curriculum expectations, as well as in creating inclusive, affirming, relevant, and meaningful learning experiences that motivates young people to take informed action. Thursday, October 13th and Friday, October 14th from 8:30 - 3:00 at TST BOCES. Click [here](#) for more information. Sign up now [here](#).

## 21st Century Learning for All Students - Friday September 30th, 2016 from 8:30 AM – 3:00 PM at SUNY Cortland.

- Presenter Matt Bergman, is a technology integration specialist, an experienced classroom teacher, teacher educator, and a member of Harvard's CAST

Professional Learning Cadre, experienced in working with educators around the country to implement the Universal Design for Learning (UDL). In this workshop, he will support K-12 teachers to:

- Design learning experiences that promote communication, collaboration, critical thinking, creativity, and digital citizenship.
- Use technology to assess and analyze student performance.
- Use technology to make learning accessible for ALL students.
- Develop a toolbox of technology resources and practical examples of application.
- Use technology integration models and standards to design powerful learning experiences for all students.
- Understand what brain research indicates about the relationship our students have with technology and how it is wiring their brains.

This workshop is FREE, but space is limited and registration is required. To register [Click Here](#)

## LINKS, ARTICLES & BOOKS

- [WNET Education, Media with Impact](#)
- [Funds of Knowledge](#), by Janet Kier Lopez
- [Creating Welcoming Schools](#), by JoBeth Allen 2007
- [Valuing Families' Funds of Knowledge](#), by Charlene Klassen-Endrizzi
- New Jim Crow Community Read: Join others from around the region in reading and discussing the issues raised in Michelle Alexander's text: The New Jim Crow - Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness. Click [here](#) for More information.

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

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Barry Derfel, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction

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