

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

Assessment

This week, let's analyze any assessments we are using (whether in the classroom or with faculty) in relation to the six facets identified in this week's quote, below. Are there certain facets you tend to emphasize and others that you don't? I encourage us to talk with our colleagues about what we notice.

NEWS AND NOTES

We Want your Input

Commissioner Elia released the first draft of the revised Common Core State Standards for public comment. You can find a synopsis of the revisions, as well as a link to the survey for comment, [here](#).

Upcoming NYS RtI TAC Webinars

To learn more about the webinar sessions, please refer to the NYS RtI TAC [website](#). If you have questions regarding these webinar sessions, please contact Jason O'Connell at 518-486-7462.

- Webinar Strand Title: *Response to Intervention: A Multi-Tiered System of Supports*
Five-session webinar strand will address the connection between RtI and MTSS and how schools can use this prevention process to address the academic and learning needs of ALL students. First session begins Sept. 27.
- Webinar Strand Title: *Fostering Reading Comprehension for Children in Grade 3 to Grade 6 at Tier One or Core Instruction*
Three-session webinar strand will focus on developing high-level reading comprehension for ALL students in the intermediate grades. First session begins Sept. 28.
- Webinar Strand Title: *Developing Reading Comprehension for Children in Prekindergarten to Grade 2 at Tier One or Core Instruction*
Three-session webinar strand will address how teachers can increase the effectiveness of teacher read-alouds, shared reading of complex texts and small group reading of instructional level texts for developing the comprehension of young children. First session begins Nov. 2.

TST BOCES Model Schools Fall 2016 Catalog ([click here](#))

LINKS, ARTICLES & BOOKS

- [Edutopia](#)
- [Visible Learning for Teachers](#), John Hattie, 2012
- *Wharf Talk, Home Talk, and School Talk: The Politics of Language in a Coastal Community*, Michael Corbett, 2010.

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

Quote of the Week

"Teachers provide opportunities for students to explore, interpret, apply, shift perspectives, empathize and self-assess. These six facets provide conceptual lenses through which student understanding is assessed."
-- Tomlinson & McTighe, 2006

THERE'S MORE ↓

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES

Poverty is not a culture: Understanding and Supporting Students Dealing with Economic Insecurity

This is a three-session series and each session runs from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Participants are expected to sign up for all three sessions, which will be held Oct. 31, Nov. 18 and Dec. 16. Co-sponsored by SUNY Cortland and TST BOCES. In this three-session workshop series, we will work together to develop clarity about the ways in which our schools can best support and affirm students and families who are struggling for economic security. We will confront mainstream stereotypes, myths and misinformation relating to poverty by examining how these notions have been constructed over time. We will reflect on our own beliefs to solidify within ourselves an asset-based mindset regarding our students and families who struggle for economic security. We will identify concrete actions we can take to ensure that all of our students are successful. More information is available [here](#). Sign up now in [mlp](#).

Facing History and Ourselves: Choosing to Participate – Taking Informed Action

If you teach social studies, this Facing History Series is for you! 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.

This two-day series will be held on Oct. 13-14, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at TST BOCES. The series will be co-facilitated by the folks from Facing History and Barry Derfel, from TST BOCES. More information can be found [here](#). Sign up in [mlp](#).

Autism Collaborative Community

This is a new opportunity for educators currently working with students with autism spectrum disorder in their classrooms to collaborate and share promising practices across our region. This community will be co-facilitated by *Jennifer Gondek, Instructional Specialist for Inclusion at TST BOCES; Rachel Walker, Autism Consultant for Ithaca City School District; and Justin DiMatteo, Technology Instructional Specialist at TST BOCES.*

Throughout the series, participants will explore evidence-based practices and interventions with opportunities to plan for implementation and reflect together on data collected. Classroom-based follow-up support will be offered as needed by the facilitators. The shared mentor texts provided to all participants will be *You're Going to Love this Kid* by Paula Kluth and *The Reason I Jump* by Naoki Higashida. Series dates are Oct. 28, Jan. 18 and April 5, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. More information available [here](#). Sign up in [mlp](#).

Elementary Co-Teaching PLC

This regional PLC will bring together educators that are co-teaching in elementary school classrooms. Teams of co-teachers will reflect together on their instructional practices, plan with the principles of Universal Design for Learning and create action plans to guide their work. Facilitated by Jennifer Gondek, Instructional Specialist for Inclusion at TST BOCES and Lee Ginenthal, Teacher on Special Assignment for Inclusion at Ithaca City School District. Sessions will be held Oct. 20, Jan. 12 and March 16, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Sign up in [mlp](#). For more information, click [here](#).

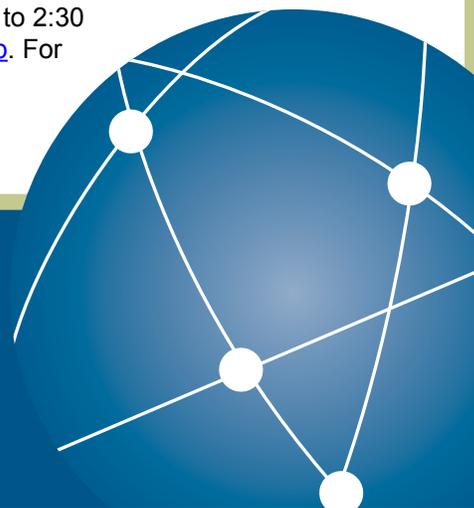
If you're looking for even more professional development opportunities,

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.

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UPCOMING WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES

Sustaining an Appetite for Learning

This seminar will be held from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Nov. 4 at the Johnson Museum of Art. From Meso-American chocolate pots to pop art still life, the Johnson Museum of Art has countless art objects relating to food. We'll explore food as a lens for learning in an interdisciplinary way touching on history and art, biology and music, literature and economics. Sessions will focus on food justice, sustainability, sacred vessels/sacred meals and lesson plan construction on the subject of food and civil rights. A special lunch will be included.

The daylong session will be led by Maryterese Pasquale Bowen and Carol Hockett with guests speakers from Cornell University. Sign up now in [mlp](#).

ARTS Educators Conference Day

A full-day conference will be held Oct. 21 at TST BOCES. Workshops focusing on gaming, cultural competency, and the ARTS (music, visual and media arts) will be presented. The day will begin with an arts round-table discussion and conclude with an artist and vendor networking session with local and regional artists and vendors. Sign up now in [mlp](#).

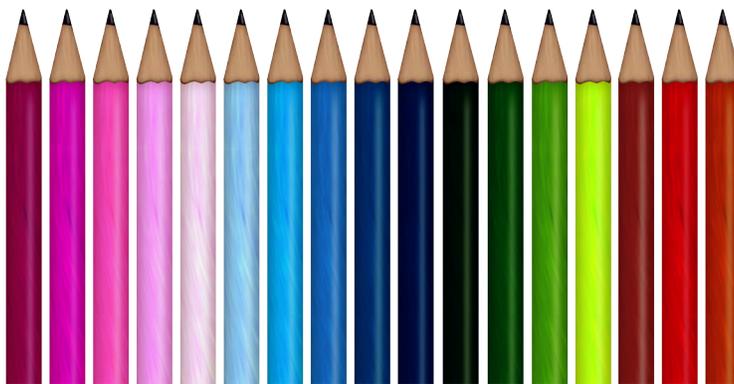
Uncommon Approaches to Cultural Education ([click here](#))

The New Jim Crow Community Book Read

The New Jim Crow, by Michelle Alexander, is the definitive academic/legal account of the contemporary system of mass incarceration. In Alexander's words, mass incarceration is a "stunningly comprehensive and well disguised system of racialized social control that functions in a manner strikingly similar to Jim Crow."

The Book Read project lasts from September 2016 to April 2017. There are two main parts: Free films and eight free community events based on chapter themes and actions we can take locally to end injustice. These events are open to everyone, whether you read the book or not.

Childcare is free, and a free light dinner is provided at each event. Barry Derfel, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction at TST BOCES will be facilitating online follow-up discussions for teachers following each of the monthly community events at GIAC. Discussion is only open to those who attend the event. The next event will be Oct. 17, from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at Greater Ithaca Activities Center (GIAC), 301 W. Court St., Ithaca. Sign up for the follow-up discussion in [mlp](#). In addition, be sure to sign in with Barry at GIAC.



FOR PRINCIPALS

- Click [here](#) to access the most recent Blue Print for Students with Disabilities PowerPoint. CSE chairs reviewed the regional data at one of the previous chairs' meetings. This link will take you to the guidance memo and blueprint chart. We will be referring to the blueprint throughout the year so if you don't already have it, I would recommend printing a copy.
- [Office of Special Education – August 2016 News and Notes](#)
- Transformative Principal with Jethro Jones and Educators Lead with Jay Willis - [Podcasts](#)
- The Oct. 4 deadline is fast approaching for applications for the US Senate Youth program. Click [here](#) for more information.

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Barry Derfel, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction

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