

# 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

### Discipline as Self-Control

This week, let's talk with our colleagues about how we can all (students and educators) learn to more consistently advocate for our needs in an appropriate time, place and manner, especially when we are in the midst of a stressful or uncomfortable situation.

## NEWS AND NOTES

### Cybersafety Presentation

The Community Coalition for Healthy Youth invites members of the community to a free presentation from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Oct. 4.

Going Beyond "Just Say No" and Cybersafety - Healthy strategies for helping children and teens use media wisely - is a lively and interactive presentation. It will address the challenges parents face in helping children and teens navigate the complex media-saturated world in which they live, along with practical suggestions using media literacy.

This event will be presented by Dr. Cyndy Scheibe, director of Project Look Sharp at Ithaca College, and will be held in the Ithaca High School Activities Room, 1401 N. Cayuga St., Ithaca. Click [here](#) for more information.

Check out

THE FALL 2016  
MODEL SCHOOLS

TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION  
OFFERINGS.

## FOR TEACHERS

### Cornell's Mario Einaudi Center's Lending Library

The lending library is an online educational outreach resource that provides images, descriptive text and searchable keywords to aid the teacher-user in finding the materials they need. This online resource contains books, movies, music and culture kits — all of which are intended to promote the internationalization of course curriculums. The lending library consists of more than 1,000 educational books and more than 50 uniquely designed culture kits. These resources were developed to engage both educators and students in creating a deeper understanding of foreign cultures and languages. The resources within the lending library were prepared by experts at Cornell University and are geared for use by K-12 and community college educators.

Click [here](#) to search and checkout materials from our lending library. Questions? Please email [outreach@einaudi.cornell.edu](mailto:outreach@einaudi.cornell.edu) or to register as a library patron.

### Cornell Institute for Biology Teachers

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, click [here](#).

### Quote of the Week

"Our goal is to help students understand what their bodies' biological responses are when they are in the midst of overwhelming stress, to give them the tools and strategies to override their tendencies to go (or stay) 'downstairs,' and to work with them to stay 'upstairs' – responding logically, thoughtfully and intentionally to the reality they're facing."

-- Souers & Hall, 2016

THERE'S MORE ↓

tstboces.org

## UPCOMING WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES

### Professional Development for School Health Personnel and Health Educators

The New York State Center for School Health (NYSCSH) has a new five-year contract from NYS Education Department that expands our services to include all members of the Coordinated School Health team (school nurses, school medical directors, health educators and coordinators of health education). These seminars will provide information and resources that will assist school health professionals in their areas of expertise, and include a digital tour the NYSCSH website and overview of the support and resources available. Register [here](#).

### What Does It Mean to be Human?

The Johnson Museum of Art, in conjunction with TST BOCES, will host a six installment course to coincide with the Smithsonian Exhibit "Exploring Human Origins: What Does It Mean to be Human." This blended course will be part Facebook discussion and face-to-face meetings at the Johnson. Participants can elect to sign up for the full six-session course through this [link](#), or sign up for partial sessions and credit through other links and course listings in [My Learning Plan](#).

### Building Trauma-Responsive Schools to Support Resiliency & Learning

Join us for an interactive and informative two-day training summit on trauma-responsiveness for school districts in the TST BOCES region. The summit, led by Gwen Olton M.A., R.N. of Coordinated Care Services Inc., Rochester, is designed to introduce participants to the essential elements of trauma-informed and responsive schools and how to apply that information to your daily practice and school cultures. To approach this essential topic from a variety of perspectives, school districts are encouraged to send a multi-disciplinary team including administrators, school support staff, family members, teachers and food and transportation staff.

Please note that plans are fully underway to support and sustain the work that will begin at this summit in the year to come through TST BOCES and other local agencies.

There will be no charge for this summit thanks to sponsorship from TST BOCES, Franziska Racker Centers, and a New York State Early Recognition Grant.

For more information, check out this [flier](#), or contact Jaydn McCune at 607-257-1555, ext. 5046, or by email at [jaydnmcss@rackercenters.org](mailto:jaydnmcss@rackercenters.org).

### 9th-12th grade Mathematics Teachers Network

Questioning strategies have been shown to have a direct impact on levels of student engagement in all classrooms. In keeping with the spirit of our regional goals, the TST BOCES 9-12 Math Teachers Network will visit how higher-level questions in math classrooms can drive the caliber of

**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.

student discussions. Using Quality Questioning: Research-based practice to engage every learner (Walsh & Sattes, 2005) we will consider the kinds of questions used in our high school math settings and ways we can improve students' engagement as a result.

Participants will have opportunities to network, ask questions of one another, and share relevant resources. Updates from NYSED and the SCDN Statewide Math Committee will also be provided. More information can be found [here](#).

### K-8 Math Teachers Network

Building upon previous learning, the TST BOCES K-8 Mathematics Teachers Network will continue to grow and develop skills that increase student learning and engagement.

In each of the four sessions we will deepen our understanding of strategies that are used to create an environment for respectful, productive mathematical discourse using rich questions. We will use components of Adding Talk to the Equation: Discussion and Discovery in Mathematics (West, 2016) in differentiated grade-level groups. Through case studies we will see how to lead math conversations so all students stay engaged. To complement this learning resource we will also engage in on-going text-based discussions using Quality-Questioning: Research-Based Practice to Engage Every Learner (Walsh & Sattes, 2005). This resource will have us consider the types of questions that we ask and how they impact student engagement and learning.

Learning will be supported with-in the classroom as participants have the opportunity to meet and plan collaboratively with the facilitator.

In the past, teachers have found the in-district and cross-district collaboration to be of most value. Past participants and new participants alike are encouraged to join. More information can be found [here](#).

## UPCOMING WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES

### Google Apps for Education Online Learning Academy – Free!

This individualized professional development opportunity will allow educators to earn five professional development hours for successfully completing all five challenges (Google Drive, Docs, Slides, Forms, and Classroom). The educator will:

- Immerse themselves in the GAFE (Google Apps For Education) environment as they learn how to use the tools covered in the GAFE Academy
- Apply their knowledge as they create artifacts using GAFE
- Reflect on evidence to show how the application of these tools can impact students

Sign up [here](#) to take advantage of this unique learning experience while having fun learning these apps. This self-driven, self-paced PD is perfect for the teacher who only has a few minutes here and there but still wants to learn new awesome stuff that will be immediately useful in their classroom.

### Using Developmentally Appropriate Practices to Teach the Common Core in PreK and the Early Grades

This full-day seminar, sponsored by the SUNY Cortland Teacher Professional Development Network, will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Oct. 7 at the Port Watson Mini-Conference Center (131 Port Watson St., Cortland). Lunch and all materials are included. Plenty of free parking is available. Registration is FREE but space is limited and registration is required. Register via MyLearningPlan at TST BOCES or click [here](#). For more information, contact [Alexis.Abramo@Cortland.Edu](mailto:Alexis.Abramo@Cortland.Edu) or 607-753-4352.

### Using Assessment in Instruction – Independent Study

Try something different! Educators will earn six 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 and reflect on evidence to show how your application of this learning has impacted your students. Sign up [here](#).

## LINKS, ARTICLES & BOOKS

- [Building Bridges for a socially just, ecologically sound, local economy](#)
- [Culture-Generated and Affirming Resources](#)
- [The Principal as Leader of Challenging Conversations](#) (Leading Student Achievement Series)
- *Teaching to Promote Deep Understanding and Instigate Conceptual Change*

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

## FOR PRINCIPALS

### Nominate an educator today! NYSCSS & NYS4A Awards

Do you have a colleague/educator that is deserving of recognition on the state level? Nominate them for a NYSCSS Award! Award categories include:

- The Outstanding Social Studies Classroom Teacher Award (Elementary, Middle School, High School)
- The Distinguished Social Studies Educator Award
- The Continuing Social Studies Service Award
- The Susan Wasserman Young Professional Memorial Award

Awards Submissions are due by Jan. 6. Nominate a colleague for an award [here](#). If you have any questions, please email Paul Gold at [pwgold@optonline.net](mailto:pwgold@optonline.net).

### Teacher of the Year Nomination Form Available

Applications are due Feb. 1. Click [here](#) for more information.

### AP/Dean of Students Council Meetings Slated

In response to requests from folks who serve as APs/deans, we will begin having monthly Council meetings in November. These meetings will run from 8-10 a.m. on the following Tuesdays: Nov. 1, Dec. 6, Feb. 7, March 28, and May 2. Please ask your APs/dean to sign up in [mlp](#).

**TST**  
**SIS Weekly Bulletin**

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School Improvement Services

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

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