

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

Reflection

Now that we have moved deeper into the school year, now is a good time for all of us to pause and reflect on how things are going. This week, let's ask ourselves and our students to identify one or two specific goals we would like to achieve between now and the end of December. To help increase our chances of meeting these goals, we might tell a few colleagues what we are hoping to accomplish, and why. Let's suggest that our students share their goals with a few peers, teachers or family members as well.

- [Managing Difficult Conversations](#), by Fred Kofman, PhD. In Economics, Professor of Leadership at UFM
- [Ten Tips for Tackling Tough Conversations](#), by Brett Novick

NEWS AND NOTES

TST BOCES-Developed Resources to Support in-District Review, Comment on new NYSLs draft

To help districts, schools and educators provide feedback to New York State regarding the proposed changes to the New York State Learning Standards, our team has created two Google Slide presentations:

1. An [extended version](#) that reflects qualities we might deem "best practice" (e.g., learning targets, processing questions, etc.) for facilitating this process with staff/colleagues.
2. A [shorter version](#) that expedites the process, perhaps most useful to individuals.

In both resources you will find video screen capture with audio narration. The audio includes an **overview** of the proposed changes in both ELA and Math as well as **examples** of the changes to the standards themselves. We intentionally avoided offering our own interpretations as to whether the proposed changes are or are not changes we, as individuals, support.

Please email Barry directly for a Zip file of Excel spreadsheets that include the current ELA Reading Standards (Literature and Information) by grade level (P-12). If you need assistance accessing any of the resources, don't hesitate to contact Justin DiMatteo: jdimatteo@tstboces.org, who is happy to help.

LINKS, ARTICLES & BOOKS

- [The Right Question Institute](#)
- *Questions, Frameworks, and Classrooms* (Lee, Swan, Grant, Rothstein, and Santana, 2015)
- [Visual Learning for Teachers](#), John Hattie, 2012

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

THERE'S MORE ↓

Quote of the Week

"[It is] critical for [students] to develop increasing awareness of their own learning goals and needs, and to become effective in speaking about and playing a role in addressing those needs."

-- Tomlinson & McTighe, 2006



FOR TEACHERS

Math for America Teaching Fellowships

“[MfA fellowships](#) are different from any other across the nation. To accomplish our goal of making teaching a viable, rewarding and respected career choice for the best minds in science and mathematics, we offer two four-year fellowships for exceptional K-12 public school STEM teachers. Through our fellowships we bring together the best teachers – those with superb content knowledge and pedagogical skills – so they can share knowledge, advance teaching skills, and define excellence. Becoming an MfA Early Career Teacher or MfA Master Teacher means joining our community of excellence, being given new chances to grow, and demonstrating – both locally and nationally – that teachers matter.”

Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching Program

The [Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching Program](#) is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and is administered by the Institute of International Education. It seeks to promote mutual understanding among teachers, their schools and communities in the U.S. and abroad by building teachers’ and students’ global competence and sharing of best educational practices internationally.

Participants in this three- to six-month program are based at university-level schools of education. They take courses, lead master classes and seminars, visit local schools, collaborate with one another online and in person, and complete an inquiry project of their own design. Click [here](#) for specific details.

FOR PRINCIPALS

- **Harvard Graduate School of Education**
 - [Race, Equity, and Leadership in Schools](#) from March 21, 2017 – March 24, 2017
 - [Leadership, An Evolving Vision](#) from July 9, 2017 – July 15, 2017
- [Principal Leadership: Focus on Professional Development](#), by Glenn Cook (2015)
- [Developing Collaborative Habits of Mind](#), Lucy West

workshop

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES

How can we make our schools more Inclusive?

This full-day workshop has two parts: viewing and discussing the documentary film *Reject*; and applying the framework that *Reject* suggests to promote the development of safe and inclusive schools.

School representatives will work together to take a closer look at how *Reject’s* guiding principles can be applied to their own schools. The goal of the workshop is to increase awareness and understanding of the ways that exclusion affects all of us in order to begin the process of reflection, and to plan the next steps toward making positive changes in our school communities.

Though this workshop is intended for school staff, interested people outside of the school community are also invited to attend. This program is co-sponsored by Family & Children’s Service, TST BOCES, the Ithaca City School District and Tompkins County Public Library.

LCSWs and LMSWs will be provided with six CEU credits after completing the six-hour program and paying an additional \$25 fee. For more information and to register, click [here](#).



UPCOMING WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES -- *continued*

Sustaining an Appetite for Learning

8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Nov. 4 ([click here for details](#))

From MesoAmerican 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 day-long session will be led by Maryterese Pasquale Bowen and Carol Hockett with guests speakers from Cornell University.

The seven hours of PD reflects six hours of instruction and one hour of teacher work time. Teacher work time will include the collection of an artifact or artifacts linking to the session topic either pre or post workshop. Educators will also be asked to share their artifact, reflection or connection to the curriculum to a session website or shared Google folder.

GAFE Online Learning Academy

[Google Apps for Education](#) online professional development is an opportunity that directly supports our Regional Priorities. Some of the learning targets come directly from Charlotte Danielson's Framework for Teaching Rubric. Specifically, they represent critical attributes in the proficient column of item 1d. Demonstrating Knowledge of Resources.

Educators will earn five professional development hours for successfully completing all five challenges (Google Drive, Docs, Slide, Forms and Classroom). The educator will: Immerse themselves in the GAFE 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.

Enhanced Lesson Design in Google Classroom

[AM session](#) and/or [PM Session](#). Join us for one or multiple half-day sessions as we redesign learning experiences for all students using Google Classroom. This is not a sit-and-get experience, so

bring your instructional materials and come prepared to create and share lessons. During these sessions we will create instructional materials utilizing various instructional strategies. Topics include, but are not limited to, hyperdocs, blended learning and student-centered creation.

We will **not** focus on "how to" tutorials for using Google Classroom. For this reason, participants must complete the [GAFE Online Learning Academy](#) prior to attending any session(s). Be sure to sign up for all sessions in which you are interested. Sessions will also be held Nov. 17 in the afternoon and Dec. 15 in the morning and afternoon.

What's New in Destiny 14.0?

This two full-day [training workshop](#) is for librarians and library support staff. Participants will investigate the new features in Destiny 14.0 with a Follett trainer. Topics will include: using the Google Chrome extension to display Destiny resources in Google searches; how to make the most of the Single Sign-On and LMS integration features; Using Axis 360 e-books through the Destiny interface and via the Axis 360 app; offline chromebook support for e-books; the new, added functionality of the Universal Search feature; access to Open Educational Resources; maximizing ILL capabilities, and more!

If you have specific questions and/or topics you would like the trainer to cover, please email Mary Kay Welgoss (mwelgoss@tstboces.org) or Michele Barr (ill@tstboces.org).

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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