

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

Core Values

What lies at the heart of our motivation to work with young people? What energizes and motivates our best selves? Let's spend time this week thinking about, and talking with our colleagues about, our core values, in terms of why we choose to be educators.

NEWS AND NOTES

Paraeducator Resource and Learning Center

"The [Paraeducator Resource and Learning Center](#) (PRLC) provides information for paraeducators about six important topics: Unit 1: Collaborative Teamwork; Unit 2: Inclusive Education; Unit 3: Families and Cultural Sensitivity; Unit 4: Characteristics of Children and Youth with Various Disabilities; Unit 5: Roles and Responsibilities of Paraeducators and Other Team Members; Unit 6: Implementing Teacher-planned Instruction."

Resources for Constructivism

- [Letting Go in the Classroom](#)
- [Constructivism in the Library](#)
- [Constructivism as a Paradigm for Teaching and Learning](#)

FOR TEACHERS

Social Studies

[Onondaga Nation](#)
[National Portal of India](#)
[Teaching Africa](#)
[China History Podcast](#)
[Chronicle America](#)

Physical Education

[SPARK](#)
 [Society of Health and Physical Education](#)

Fine & Performing Arts

[Edutopia discussions](#)
[The Power of a Imaginative Mind](#)
[Civic Ensemble](#)



LINKS, ARTICLES & BOOKS

- [Exploring Human Origins](#)
- *Framing Feedback for School Improvement Around Distributed Leadership*, (Kelley & Dikkers, 2016).
- [America in 1492: The World of Indian Peoples Before the Arrival of Columbus](#), Alvin A. Josephy, 1992

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

Quote of the Week

"Our hope for creative living in this world house that we have inherited lies in our ability to re-establish the moral ends of our lives in personal character and social justice."

-- Martin Luther King Jr. (1967)

THERE'S MORE ↓

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES | [View our Preview Catalog](#)

Toward a Liberative Construction of Safety and Healing in Schools: Responding to the School Pushout of Black Girls

6 p.m. Nov. 15 @ Klingenstein Lounge (Ithaca College)

This is the third session in IC's Discussion Series: *Imminent Generation: Coming of Age in a Time of Uncertainty*. "It is our goal to foster a critical cross-generational dialogue in hopes of developing strategies to address our ever-evolving challenges. What are the issues that this generation is going to face? How are our youth surviving in the severe state of pervasive unfreedom? What does it mean to be young at the start of the 21st century?"

PS: It Works! Communication Skills Professional Development/Facilitator Training

8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Nov. 29-30 @ Cornell Cooperative Extension

"If you work with people, parents, caregivers, children, or families, this training is for you! The training provides an in-depth introduction to Skillstreaming & the Five Communication Skills." More information and registration details can be found [here](#).

Making Number Talks Matter – Self Guided Book Study Part 1

This independent professional development opportunity invites participant to read about, reflect upon and consider implementing this nationally renowned teaching strategy highlighted in *Making Number Talks Matter: Developing Mathematical Practices and Deepening Understanding, Grades 4-10* (Humphreys & Parker, 2015). Number Talks are five- to 15-minute classroom conversations around purposefully crafted computation problems that are solved mentally. They support instruction of both the Common Core Math Standards and Mathematical Practices. They result in the increase of students' sense-making and encourage divergent thinking in classrooms. More information, including registration, can be found [here](#).

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. Enroll [here](#). Once you've enrolled, you will be able to go to the "team room" to access the directions and other materials. When all of your work is completed, you will email the documentation form and any other appropriate artifacts to me at bderfel@tstboces.org.

The New Jim Crow Community Read Follow-Up Discussion for the Nov. 14 Event

"*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.'"

Barry Derfel, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction at TST BOCES, will be facilitating online follow-up discussions for each of the monthly community events at the Beverly J. Martin Gym. Participants are expected to read the appropriate chapter prior to attending the event. Discussion is only open to those who attend the event. Once you [sign up in mlp](#), Barry will send you an email explaining where to go for the online discussion. In addition, all participants must sign in at BJM on the night of the event.

FOR PRINCIPALS

[NAEYC Thought Leaders in Early Childhood webinar series](#)

[Leadership in Mathematics Education](#)

[National Panel of New Principals](#)

[Principles for Principals](#)