

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

Responsiveness

As this week's quote below suggests, let's all pay a little extra attention to the tasks we ask others (e.g. students, colleagues, staff) to do and the welfare of those who have to accomplish these tasks. It's always a balancing act – just enough nudge to motivate others without overwhelming them.

NEWS AND NOTES

Enrollment Underway for Student Leadership Conference

Words Into Deeds is accepting enrollment for program workshops preparing youth grades 8-11 for the International Student Leadership Conference on Good Health and Well Being that will be held Feb. 17 and Feb. 20.

This conference brings together student leaders and prepared delegates from around the world to develop a Youth Plan of Action focused on mitigating Human Rights violations and supporting projects consistent with the U.N. Sustainable Development Goals. The conference takes place at the United Nations, where youth deliberate with peers in person and through video conferencing. Their final plan of action is forwarded to United Nations dignitaries in the spring. Please contact [Gertrude Noden](#) for student registration fees and prerequisite teacher/student orientation workshop information. Call 607-882-0589 or click on the link above for email.

Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics & Science Teaching

Each year the president of the United States recognizes outstanding teachers in mathematics and science from across the nation at the kindergarten through sixth-grade level or seventh- through 12th-grade level and bestows upon them the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST).

The 2016-2017 program is now accepting nominations for eligible exemplary mathematics and science (including computer science) teachers at the seventh through 12th-grade level for this award. New York state is looking for nominations of outstanding mathematics and science (including computer science) teachers that spark students' imaginations in STEM education through innovative teaching and learning. Sponsored by the National Science Foundation on behalf of the White House, the PAEMST is the highest honor in the Nation that teachers of mathematics and science may receive for outstanding teaching and leadership in their respective fields.

The nomination period is now open and will close April 1. The deadline to submit an application is May 1. Click [here](#) or [here](#) for more information.

Quote of the Week

"The school leader as a coach... knows when to push and when to back off, based on the needs of the situation. They show genuine concern for both the task at hand and the welfare of those who have to accomplish the task."

-- Megan Tschannen-Moran
(Becoming a Trustworthy Leader)

THERE'S MORE ↓

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FOR TEACHERS

Survey for Elementary Science Teachers

Please see this [survey](#) from Science Teachers Association of New York State (STANYS). They are looking for data regarding how much time elementary teachers have to teach science within their busy schedules.

School of Library and Information Studies at UW-Madison Online Course Offering

This continuing education course, Exploring South Asia through Children's and YA Literature, will run from Feb. 27 to March 24.

This course examines recently published books that reflect stories, characters and cultures from South Asia for grades pre-K through high school. Due to the growing number of books published on this unique region; and the growing number of patrons in our libraries and schools seeking materials that reflect their heritage, this course will offer tools to plan specialized programming and collection development to fulfill this need.

Instructors: Svetha Hetzler is the director of the Sun Prairie (WI) Public Library and has served as the chair of the South Asia Book Award (SABA) committee. Rachel Weiss is the student services coordinator at the UW-Madison Asian Languages and Culture department and the founder of SABA.

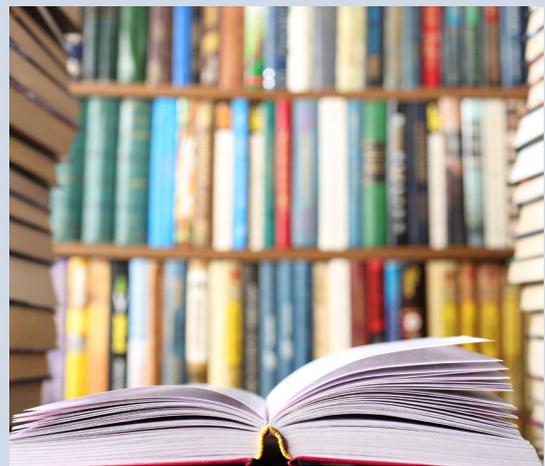
Click [here](#) for more information or register [here](#).

Teacher Resources

- [51 Education Podcasts for the 21st Century Teachers](#), from teachthought.
- [Podcasts for Teachers](#), from edutopia.
- [The Teachers' Podcast](#) - *A New Generation of Ed Tech Professional Development for Educators*

FOR PRINCIPALS

- Updated 2017 Elementary and Intermediate-Level [Exam Schedule](#)
- NYSED's online examination request system is now available for grades 3-8 ELA and math; and grades 4 & 8 science quantities. Read the memo on this topic [here](#).
- FAQ regarding the transition to the new Global Studies Regents – Click [here](#).
- Computer Based Testing - Justin DiMatteo created a presentation with the most recent Computer-Based Testing information. The presentation is interactive (e.g. with hotlinks), and can be accessed [here](#).
- Jennifer Abrams – [Having Hard Conversations](#)



LINKS, ARTICLES & BOOKS

- [What's Going On – Playing for Change](#)
- [Michelle Alexander 2013 George E. Kent Lecture](#)
- Sonia Nieto – [Doing Culturally Responsive Education: What Does it Take...](#)
- *Moving from Compliance to Agency – What Teachers Need to Make Professional Learning Work*, Learning Forward 2016.
- [The Courage to Teach](#), Parker J. Palmer 1998
- [Neighbor to Neighbor, Nation to Nation – Readings about the Relationship of the Onondaga Nation with Central New York](#), 2014. (Free copies available from Barry)

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



UPCOMING WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES

UDL and Cultural Variability

How does Universal Design for Learning (UDL) help educators address the challenges of cultural diversity in the classroom? How can learners' cultural differences be leveraged to inspire more innovation, creativity, and expert learning? Join Loui Lord Nelson, UDL author and consultant, and Joni Degner, UDL specialist and educator, for a discussion about using the UDL framework to improve teaching and learning in culturally rich classrooms. Register [here](#).

Best-Selling Author to Host Lecture

6-7:30 p.m. Nov. 16 in the Alice Statler Auditorium at Cornell University

Matthew Desmond will offer a public lecture on his best-selling book, Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City.

“From Harvard sociologist Matthew Desmond, a landmark work of scholarship and reportage that will forever change the way we look at poverty in America. Based on years of embedded fieldwork and painstakingly gathered data, this masterful book transforms our understanding of extreme poverty and economic exploitation while providing fresh ideas to solve a devastating, uniquely American problem. Its unforgettable scenes of hope and loss remind us of the centrality of home, without which nothing else is possible.”

Matthew Desmond is the John L. Loeb Associate Professor of the Social Sciences and co-director of the Justice and Poverty Project at Harvard University, and a member of the Harvard Society of Fellows.

Tompkins County Public Library Film Series 6-8 p.m. at the library (101 E. Green St., Ithaca)

Slavery By Another Name | Nov 17, 2016
Broken On All Sides | Dec 6, 2016
The House I Live In | Jan 26, 2017
The Central Park Five | Feb 16th, 2017

Alternative Pathways to Library Media Specialist Certification

Nov. 17 at Cayuga Onondaga BOCES

Because the shortage of certified school librarians continues to be a problem throughout New York State, the School Library Systems are actively working to recruit new librarians, and to help people who currently hold teaching degrees to become certified Library Media Specialists via [alternative educational pathways](#). To this end, the Cayuga Onondaga BOCES and TST BOCES School Library Systems have invited Mary Jo Sicurella, Coordinator of the School Librarianship Program at the University at Buffalo, to a meeting Nov. 17. Mary Jo will answer questions about how people can make use of the new Supplementary Certification rules to begin working in school libraries while they complete an MLIS degree. The University of Buffalo program is completely online, which can benefit interested people in our region.

First Aid for Coaches Refresher Course 3:30-6:30 p.m. Nov. 22-23 at TST BOCES

This is the State Educational Department approved [first aid course](#) designed to meet the requirements for coaches for all public school athletic programs. The course teaches participants critical skills needed to respond to and manage a first aid emergency in the first few minutes until emergency medical services arrives. Participants learn their role in supporting healthy participation by student athletes, rules for participation in sports, health and safety requirements and legal aspects of coaching. Participants learn skills such as how to treat bleeding, sprains, broken bones, shock and other first aid emergencies. All coaches are required to receive an initial course consisting of 12 hours of classroom, video-based and instructor-led education leading to a three-year coaches first aid certification. The initial course is the prerequisite for the 5 ½ hour refresher course. You must attend all sessions to be certified.

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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School Improvement Services

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

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