

TST Weekly Bulletin

Tompkins-Seneca-Tioga BOCES

TST BOCES
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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

Collaboration

This week, reach out to a colleague or two and share one of your assessments (quiz, test, homework, project, etc.) with each other. The process of talking together about your work will likely prove insightful for all involved.

FOR PRINCIPALS

Nominees Sought for Prestigious Award

The Helen Bach Moss Memorial Better Beginnings Award, which is sponsored by the Board of Regents, honors the life and career of Helen Bach Moss, a young New York State educator who passed away in 1988. Eligible nominees must be currently teaching at the elementary level (PreK-6) at a public or private school, and be appropriately credentialed in New York State. For more information, click [here](#).

Paper or Computer-Based Exam Selection

Districts may still select paper or computer-based for 3-8 standalone field tests by Dec. 30. Approximately 921, or 50 percent, of schools will be participating in computer-based testing. There will be training for technical staff in January and then other less technical training beginning in March.

LINKS, ARTICLES & BOOKS

- [Loving Learning – How Progressive Education Can Save America’s Schools](#) (Little & Ellison, 2015)
- [Inviting All Students to Learn](#) (Dack & Tomlinson, 2015)
- [Culture-Generated and Affirming Links](#)
- [December Cooperative Enrichment Newsletter](#)
- Special Education [News](#) from the Mid-State Regional Special Education Technical Assistance Support Center

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

Quote of the Week

“By working with colleagues to forge consensus about what it looks like when students achieve desired results, educators realize more coherent curricula, more reliable assessments, and greater consistency in grading across classrooms and schools.”

-- Tomlinson & McTighe, 2006

THERE’S MORE! vv

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES

Reading Like a Historian

This workshop explores ways to teach literacy in middle and high school history classrooms. It is aligned with the Common Core Learning Standards and designed to ensure that students are able to better learn and comprehend the subject matter. Check out this [flier](#) for additional details.

Global Writes: Honoring Student Voices

Global Writes is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to promote literacy,

communication and collaboration among young people through the integration of writing residencies with performing arts and technology resources. John Ellrodt and Maria Fico will share their model which was originally created in 1998. The session will provide an interactive overview of the model, data from several research grants that demonstrates the impact of our work and a live sharing session with students from NYC.

The workshop will be held from 8:30-11 a.m. Dec. 15 in the TST BOCES Boardroom. Click [here](#) for details.

SCIENCE LEARNING STANDARDS

The Education Department recently posted the draft New York State P-12 Science Learning Standards (NYSSLS) for public preview. This draft may be accessed [here](#).

To collect feedback, the Department has posted a survey allowing respondents to rate the draft NYSSLS against a set of research-based standards evaluation criteria. The survey may be accessed [here](#).

The feedback received will inform revisions to the draft NYSSLS prior to presenting them to the Board of Regents for discussion and eventual adoption. The survey will remain open until close of business Feb. 5, 2016.

FOR TEACHERS

Formative Assessment

Check out this [link](#) to view a variety of formative assessment resources.

Developing Rubrics

Rubistar is a free tool to help teachers create quality rubrics. Click [here](#) to access the Rubistar website.



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