

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

Rethinking, Revising, Refining

Find one or two times this week to explicitly prompt your students, teachers or other folks you work with to rethink their learning, or to revise/refine their work. Do they resist this work, or do they embrace it? Share your observations with a colleague or two.

NEWSLETTERS OF INTEREST

- Southern Cayuga Anne Frank Tree Project Newsletter, Click [here!](#)
- NGSS Now Newsletter, Click [here!](#)

FOR PRINCIPALS

Powerful Practices Instructional Leadership Experience

Learn from nationally renowned experts about equitable and effective strategies that yield results. For more information, click [here](#).

FOR TEACHERS

Art Teachers

CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR A MURAL CELEBRATING MUSLIM CULTURE. ENTRIES DUE FEBRUARY 9, 2016. AWARD: \$2,000. The Al-Huda Islamic Center of the Finger Lakes, the Greater Ithaca Activities Center and Multicultural Resource Center are excited to announce a search for artists to paint a mural that celebrates any aspect of our immensely diverse Muslim culture. We are asking for submissions that exclude quotes of religious text in Arabic and images of people and animals. A jury to award \$2,000 will be assembled in January including Muslim community members, members of the City of Ithaca Public Art Commission and select project co-sponsors. Click [here](#) for more details. TIMELINE: February 9, 2016: Entries due by 1pm; March 9, 2016: Winning proposal announced; June 29, 2016: Completion of mural.

THERE'S MORE! vv

Quote of the Week

"If it's worth understanding, it's worth rethinking. If it's worth doing, it's worth reflecting upon. How will I encourage the learners to rethink previous learning? How will I encourage ongoing revision and refinement?"

-- Tomlinson & McTighe

Elementary & Social Studies Teachers

Do you have what it takes to write a C3 Inquiry? Submissions are now being accepted for the C3 Teachers Inquiry Challenge. The purpose of the challenge is to support and reward social studies educators using the Inquiry Design Model™ (IDM). This challenge is co-sponsored by C3 Teachers and the Social Studies Assessment, Curriculum and Instruction (SSACI) Collaborative, which is part of the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO). Click [here](#) for more information.

Linguistics Olympiad

The Linguistics Olympiad will be hosted at Cornell

on January 28. There is no prep necessary, no fee, and regional winners will go on to nationals. The [attached flyer](#) says “High School Students,” but it is officially open to ages 13-18, and those younger can enter to compete with parental permission. Teachers, the [attached letter](#) provides more specific details.

To learn more out about the North American Computer Linguistics Olympiad, to find handbooks and practice problems or more general information, you can go to <http://nacloweb.org>. *If you are interested in getting involved and have any questions, please email Abby Cohn, professor in the linguistics department here at Cornell, at acc4@cornell.edu.*

WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCES

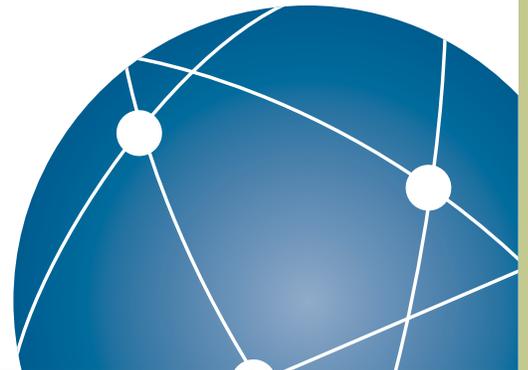
STEM: Explore, Discover, Apply (STEM EDA)

Awesome opportunity for our region! STEM EDA engages middle-school students through a series of hands-on projects that help improve their problem-solving and critical thinking skills. All projects seamlessly integrate the Engineering Design Process and ‘cyber’ concepts which allows students to creatively explore STEM through design. This multi-grade level curricula utilizes liberal arts disciplines to provide meaning and depth to the content. Through STEM EDA, students develop invaluable skills focusing on leadership, team building, creativity and communication. STEM EDA’s modular nature provides ultimate flexibility to schools. Teachers can implement the curricula as a standalone elective course, insert specific modules into an existing class or provide the modules as an after-school program.

During the professional development, teachers will go through and experience a variety of projects as if they were the student. This dynamic and interactive professional development model will empower teachers to begin teaching in a new and engaging manner! TST BOCES will provide ongoing, individualized coaching support after the training, to help ensure that teachers are successful in implementing what they have learned. For more information, click [here](#).

Symposium

The East Irondequoit School District, which is in the third year of a successful 1:1 iPad implementation, is partnering with Monroe #1 BOCES and the University of Rochester’s school of education to host a two-day [symposium](#) where they will be sharing what they’ve learned and hoping to continue the thinking that they (and others like them) have gone through. It’s being held February 24/25 at the East Irondequoit Central School District near Rochester.



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

tstboces.org

We All Belong Together: Inclusive Programming for Young Children:

Friday, April 15, 2016, from 8:30 AM - 2:30 PM at Core Union, Exhibition Lounge/SUNY Cortland

Participants will learn about innovative and developmentally appropriate ways to support young children with special needs and their typical peers. The program will include a keynote presentation by Jowonio teachers on Play-Based Inclusion, a firsthand look into Jowonio classrooms with videos created especially for this event, and breakout sessions led by experienced special education and early childhood teachers; occupational, physical and speech therapists; and social workers. Topics include:

- Sensory Support
- Visual Strategies
- Teaching Social Skills
- Supporting Families
- Teacher/Therapist Teaming

This event is designed for early childhood educators, therapists, community providers, preservice teachers and teacher educators. Lunch and all materials will be provided. Registration is FREE, but space is limited. Reserve your seat by April 1st [here!](#)

Universal Design for Learning (UDL)

Work with UDL professionals and colleagues to develop or overhaul a unit plan based on the principles of Universal Design for Learning (UDL). Starting with a January Webinar and ending with a debrief session in June, this professional development series will provide support and feedback along the way. This event is designed for any teacher K-12 who has knowledge of UDL and is ready to go to the next level!

This event is FREE, but space is limited and registration is required. All teachers PK-12 are invited and teams of special education and classroom teachers are encouraged to attend together. Participants who complete the entire program will receive 12 hours of professional development credit and \$100 to support the cost of materials for implementation. Register via [MyLearningPlan!](#)

Bringing the “Social Studies Practices” to Life

Bringing the “Social Studies Practices” to Life - Update, revise, or create a unit plan by explicitly building students’ ability to use and apply key social studies skills. This 4-part series will run from 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. on the following dates: February 3, February 24, March 7 and March 21. The Cost is \$15 per session. For more information, click [here](#).

LINKS, ARTICLES & BOOKS

- [Between the World and Me](#) (Ta-Nehisi Coates)
- [Enhancing the Learning Environment through Student-Led Mathematical Discussions](#) (Arbaugh & Avery, 2010)
- [Progressive Education Network](#)
- [PBS LearningMedia](#)

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

