

# 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

### Encouraging Creativity

This week, let's reflect on the degree to which the tasks we ask our students, staff or colleagues to do encourage (and even require) creativity, or not. If we realize that much of what we are asking others to do is not, in fact, encouraging creativity, we might think about how we could adjust these tasks to foster more creativity.

## NEWS & NOTES

### Survey Results

We asked young people, families, educators and community to share their reactions to our list of [intended outcomes](#). More than 600 people responded to our one-question survey. Check out the results, [here](#).

## FOR TEACHERS

### Resources to Support all Educators

The National Association for the Education of Young Children has all kinds of resources to support all educators, not just those who teach at the preschool or early elementary levels. Recent issues of their YC Journal can be found [here](#). *Voices of Practitioners*, "is a vehicle for dissemination of early childhood teachers' systematic study of an aspect of their own classroom practice," and can found [here](#). Many of these resources can be shared easily without requiring special permission. Check out their permissions [page](#).

### Highlander Research and Education Center

"Highlander serves as a catalyst for grassroots organizing and movement building in Appalachia and the South. We work with people fighting for justice, equality and sustainability, supporting their efforts to take collective action to shape their own destiny." You can find general resources and information about Highlander [here](#), and you can access their archives of primary source documents, [here](#).

### Septima Clark

Septima Clark played a key role in helping African Americans work to access full citizenship rights. You and your students might find this [overview and set of resources](#) inspiring and useful in your classroom.

### ThinkCERCA Resources

ThinkCERCA resources are applicable across multiple disciplines and age groups. Type in a topic or concept (for example, Questioning) [here](#) and see what comes up.

### Quote of the Week

"Creativity is a form of knowledge creation; therefore stimulating creativity has positive spillover effects onto learning, supporting and enhancing self-learning, learning to learn and lifelong learning skills and competencies."

-- Ferrari, Cachia, & Punie 2009

**THERE'S MORE ↓**

## UPCOMING WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES

Offered through our folks here at TST BOCES

Looking for more PD opportunities?

Click [here](#) to access the PD catalog online.

### Regional Demonstration Classroom Professional Learning Experience

Regional Demonstration Classroom Professional Learning Experience - Do you want to see colleagues throughout the TST BOCES region teach? This professional learning opportunity includes a pre-observation meeting followed by a post observation meeting with a Demonstration Classroom Teacher. Visitors will observe and discuss how Learning Targets, Criteria for Success, and Formative Assessment Practices are used throughout the lesson. Find additional information, including details about how to sign up, [here](#).

### Summer Mathematics Professional Development Opportunities

Please click [here](#) for three series that will be offered this summer — Using Number Talks to Enhance Math Instruction: Whole Number Computation Grades K-5, Using Number Talks to Enhance Math Instruction: Whole Number Computation Grades 5 - 8, and Balancing Math Instruction with Technology: The Potential of Zern.

Offered by other organizations and/or our consultants

### Unit Planning for all Learners

Series 1: July 11-13 | Series 2: Aug. 8-10

Similar to last year, we will be offering two sessions of this three-day series. More details will be coming out soon!

### Preparing our Students for the 21st Century Through Sustainability Education

8 am to 5 pm May 25 | May 26 7:30 am to 1 pm Wells College | 170 Main St., Aurora, NY

Developing 21st century leaders who understand their roles and responsibilities as global citizens requires a big-picture, "systems" approach to problem-solving. The Finger Lakes Project is just such a specialized faculty training program to support sustainability curriculum development.

This year, with additional support from our program underwriter, participants who attend the entire workshop become eligible to apply for mini-grants for their successful implementation of workshop concepts in the development of sustainability curriculum. Information on applying for these mini-grants will be provided during the workshop.

During this 1-and-1/2-day training workshop, you will: get coaching on developing outcome-based sustainability curricula; learn what you need to know to integrate content from all three "pillars" of sustainability education (social justice, science, and economics) into classes in any discipline; explore curriculum models that integrate diverse modalities into age-appropriate, engaging, content-rich and complex learning. Learn more about the 2017 Finger Lakes Project workshop [here](#), or register in [mlp](#). For more details, click [here](#).

## FOR PRINCIPALS

[Change.school June 2017](#). "Join a community of global educational leaders to reimagine your school, design change that matters, and build a personal playbook to make it happen."

### [Modern Learners Podcast](#).

"Education is at a crossroads, and it's becoming more and more clear that a full reimagining of school is now needed to best prepare our children for a fast-changing, globally-networked world of learning, work, and life. We discuss how these principles can provide a framework for educational change in your school."

## LINKS, ARTICLES & BOOKS

- *Innovation and Creativity in Education and Training in the EU Member States: Fostering Creative Learning and Supporting Innovative Teaching* (Ferrari, Cachia, Punie 2009).
- [Unstoppable Learning: Seven Essential Elements to Unleash Student Potential](#) (Fisher & Frye, 2015).
- [Why Writing About Math is the Best Part of the Common Core](#)

Contact Barry to borrow a book or article

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SIS Weekly Bulletin

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