

# 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

### Transitions

As we move towards the end of our school year, some students will be eagerly anticipating this change and some students will be anxious about this change. Let's take some time to ask our students how they feel about the end of the school year. This will probably be most effective if we ask students individually or in small groups. Knowing how our different students are feeling can help us figure out the best way to support them during these last weeks of school.

## NEWS & NOTES

### Supporting All Students:

[Mental Health First Aid](#) – “Mental Health First Aid teaches you how to identify, understand, and respond to signs of mental illnesses and substance abuse disorders in your community.”

[The Road to Success in a High-Poverty School: It's All About Collaboration, Expectations Release – A Mindfulness Short](#)

### Resources connected to our 2017 – 2018 Regional Priorities:

Supporting students' mental, social, and emotional health – [National Center on Safe, Supportive, Learning Environments](#)

Student-driven learning – *for example:* [Student-Centered Learning Research Collaborative](#)

Questioning and discussion techniques – [Danielson Rubric Component 3b](#)

Engaging students in learning – [Danielson Rubric Component 3c](#)

Using assessment in instruction – [Danielson Rubric Component 3d](#)

## FOR TEACHERS

### Online Programs for Teachers

Many institutions of higher education are offering online Advanced Certificate and master's programs for teachers across the state that lead to certification in the high-needs areas of bilingual education, ESOL, gifted education, library media, literacy, mathematics, science, and special education. Please see the [link](#) titled “Online Programs for Teachers”.

Edutopia's [Best Education Podcasts](#)  
[16 Education Podcasts to Check Out in 2017](#)

### Quote of the Week

“When students are doing the talking, the teacher has a chance to assess understanding. A number of classroom structures give students an opportunity to talk, including think-pair-share, reciprocal teaching, literacy circles, discussion prompts, and Socratic seminars” -- Fisher & Frey, 2011

**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.

### Integrating The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness into the curriculum

5 to 7 Teachers from across the TST BOCES region are invited to participate in this project. This group of teachers will work together, with facilitation from the TST BOCES School Improvement Services team, to either plan a unit with the New Jim Crow as an anchor text, or to build the text and its core ideas into current units the teachers have already created. Teachers will earn a stipend of \$250.00 for completion of this project. Expectations include:

1. Reading of the full text and participation in a facilitated discussion of the text.
2. Three-days of facilitated work time with TST BOCES Instructional Specialists and/or Assistant Superintendent for Instruction in July/August 2017 to get started on the project, utilizing the principles of Understanding by Design ([UbD](#)) and Universal Design for Learning ([UDL](#))
3. Completion of a full unit plan, or integration of the text into multiple unit plans, prior to the end of August, 2017.
4. Teaching the unit during the 2017 – 2018 school year.
5. Reflection with TST BOCES Instructional Specialists and/or Assistant Superintendent for Instruction on the ways in which the delivery of the unit/units matched the intended student outcomes, and the ways in which the unit/units might be revised to improve these outcomes.

Please contact Barry Derfel directly ([bderfel@tstboces](mailto:bderfel@tstboces)) to sign up for this project. Participants will be accepted on a first come, first served basis.

### Summer Unit Planning for All Learners

Similar to last year, we will be offering two sessions of this three-day series. See [link](#) for more details. Sign up at the following links for [Series One](#) (July 10, 11, and 12) and/or [Series Two](#) (August 8, 9, and 10).

### 2017 Engage, Educate, Empower EVERYONE Inclusion Conference

Provides opportunities for building the skills and knowledge that teachers, educational support personnel, administrators, parents, and families need to change the culture of our schools. This is not just a “sit and get” conference. The nationally recognized keynote speakers will engage, educate and empower us. The breakout sessions, led by local practitioners, will work with us to develop concrete steps to move inclusive work in our classrooms, schools, and school districts forward. Co-sponsored by the Ithaca City School District and TST BOCES.

Offered by other organizations and/or our consultants

### LINKS, ARTICLES & BOOKS

- [A Colony in a Nation](#), (Chris Hayes 2017)
- [Multicultural Children's Literature as an Instrument of Power](#) (Stuart H. Ching, 2005)
- [20 Books to Teach Diversity to Elementary and Middle School Students](#)

Contact Barry to borrow a book or article

### FOR PRINCIPALS

Unit of Study Requirements for Career & Technical Education in the Middle Level. For details click [here](#).

Under the new language, middle level CTE is represented in CR 100.4 as “1 ¾ unit career and technical education,” rather than as “1 unit of technology education and ¾ unit of Home and Career Skills.”

This change allows districts with 2017-18 job openings for middle level technology or family and consumer sciences teachers to look to the expanded pool of all CTE certified teachers for recruitment into open positions.

Lucy West – [Snapshots of Effective Practice Videos and Resources](#)

[PBS School Leadership in Action](#) video series

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School Improvement Services

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

SIS Weekly Bulletin

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