

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

Today's quote suggests that Social Studies impacts us all. This week, let's seriously consider what Social Studies learning (and by implication, teaching) ought to look like, sound like, and feel like for every young person in our region. Specifically, let's each read (or re-read) [this key excerpt](#) from the C3 Social Studies Framework, share its core message with our students, their families, and our colleagues, and invite each of these folks to share their reactions with us and each other.

NEWS & NOTES

United Way of Tompkins County

On Saturday, September 9th, each of the school districts in Tompkins County participated as a drop-off site for United Way of Tompkins County's Hurricane Harvey Supply Drive. Several of the districts distributed information about the drive throughout their staff, and Dewitt Middle School even recruited student volunteers to help load the supplies onto the trucks as they were being dropped off. Ultimately, two semis worth of supplies were collected and sent down to Houston, including a full classroom, complete with computers. United Way of Tompkins County has expressed their gratitude for the cooperation of each of the school districts in helping to make this supply drive such a success. **Students who helped included** Jack Balkman, Luke Newton, Declan Poles, Kieren Lucio-Belbase, Aidan Hayward Toland, Richard Lin, Victoria Lu, and Adowyn Ernste. The photos from the supply drive are all on our Flickr account [here](#).

United Way is now accepting nominations for the 18th annual Youth and Philanthropy (YAP) program. YAP is a leadership initiative that gives students in the TST BOCES district the opportunity to take an active role in their communities and award \$25,000 in grant funds. Students participate in team-building activities, learn about community needs and assets, explore leadership abilities, review grant applications, develop financial and program assessment skills, and invest in programs that are making a difference in our community. Please submit your nominations at UWTC.org. If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Kelsey Rossbach at krossbach@uwtc.org or call

(607) 272-6286. Thank you for your assistance and continued support.

Why school? What are we working towards? Did you know that over 600 people from across the TST BOCES region, including students, families, and community, responded to our intended outcomes survey last spring? Check out the results [here](#).

Quote of the Week

"The primary purpose of Social Studies is to help young people develop the ability to make informed and reasoned decisions for the public good as citizens of a culturally diverse, democratic society in an interdependent world [adapted from the National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS) definition of Social Studies]" (New York State Social Studies Framework).

THERE'S MORE ↓

tstboces.org



UPCOMING WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES

Offered through our folks here at TST BOCES

Looking for more PD opportunities?

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

Math Teachers Network, grades K - 8

Learning Targets for this year's Math Coaches Network for grades K - 8 include the following: Discover how to build successful relationships with students, critical to long-term student gains; understand learning intentions and success criteria and why they are critical to student growth; explore the three phases of learning -- surface, deep, and transfer; examine key approaches that work best at each phase of learning and apply these to lesson planning; implement strategies that support the development of a growth mindset. More information, including dates and registration details, can be found [here](#).

High School Math Teachers Network

Come develop professional connections with other mathematics teachers in your region, as we reflect and build upon promising practices for teaching high school mathematics. The use of our mentor text Visible Learning for Mathematics (Hattie, Fisher, and Frey, 2010) will guide us as we: investigate high impact teaching strategies; reflect on surface, deep, and transfer learning opportunities; build student capacity to engage in higher-level mathematics; and make connections to NCTM's Mathematics Teaching Practices. Additionally, participants in this network will begin to consider New York's recently approved Next Generation Math Standards. Various documents provided by NYSED will guide this work. More information, including registration details, can be found [here](#).

Offered by other organizations and/or our consultants

Classroom Management Training on October 25 & 26 in Cortland

Participants will learn how to utilize evidence-based practices for basic classroom management. Content will include: maximizing structure by creating procedures and routines, establishing and teaching expectations for positive behavior, increasing student engagement by providing more opportunities for students to respond, and creating continuums to respond to both positive and problem behavior. More details, as well as registration, via [mlp](#).

TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION

Tech Crew Information

Click [this link](#) and then push the play button to learn more about Computer Based Testing (CBT) and how our Tech Crew can help support you and your students make the transition to Computer Based Testing.

FOR PRINCIPALS

Principals, don't miss this chance to support one or more outstanding teachers in your school with a career-ladder opportunity that does not take them out of the classroom. Applications are now being accepted for teachers who want to serve as Demonstration Classroom teacher, and your invitation to a specific teacher or two could be just the affirmation they need to make the decision to apply. Details about this Regional Program can be found [here](#).

[Research clearly shows](#) that building a school culture that robustly supports every students' social and emotional well-being leads to increased success rates. It also makes school a great place to be. [These resources](#) for the systemic implementation of social and emotional learning by school districts can help you move from wanting to do this to actually doing this.

FOR TEACHERS

[Regional Demonstration Classrooms - Apply now!](#)

What is Regional Demonstration Classroom? A demonstration classroom is a professional learning lab for educators. The demonstration classroom serves as a job-embedded professional learning model that takes place during the normal school day, allowing visiting teachers to observe promising practices as they unfold in a live teaching environment with students engaged in learning. Each visit to a demonstration classroom includes a pre-observation meeting followed by a non-evaluative collegial discussion with the demonstration classroom teacher and a TST BOCES instructional coach. Apply [here](#).

[Why Regional Demonstration Classrooms?](#)

Why regional demonstration classrooms? To visit colleagues' classrooms to share ideas and increase our collective understanding of how to create the best possible learning environment for all students; to participate in non-evaluative collegial discussions that enhance our content knowledge and pedagogical practice; to network educators throughout the TST BOCES region. Application information and more details are available [here](#).

Supporting All Students:

[Supporting students' mental health, and their social & emotional well-being](#)

[Student-driven learning](#)

[Questioning and discussion techniques](#)

[Engaging students in learning](#)

[Using assessment in instruction](#)

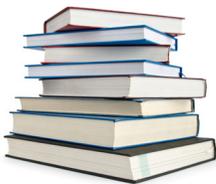
LINKS, ARTICLES & BOOKS

[New York State Social Studies Framework Introduction](#)

[Using an Assets Approach for Positive Mental Health and Well-Being \(An IRISS and East Dunbartonshire Council project\).](#)

[Strength to Love. \(Martin Luther King, Jr. 1963\)](#)

Contact Barry to borrow a book or article



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SIS Weekly Bulletin

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Barry Derfel, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction

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