

TST Weekly Bulletin

Tompkins-Seneca-Tioga BOCES



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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TST BOCES
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FOCUS OF THE WEEK

Core Values

What lies at the heart of our motivation to work with young people through education? What energizes and motivates our best self? Let's spend some time this week thinking about and talking with our colleagues about our core values, as they relate to young people and education.

FOR TEACHERS

Next Generation Science Standards

Read this [executive summary](#) for a general introduction to the NGSS.

#HipHopEd

[#HipHopEd](#) is an approach to education and youth development that is rooted in identifying and building upon the intellectual abilities exemplified within Hip-Hop music and pedagogy. We are committed as educators to work for the continued improvement of the educational experiences of our youth. We are intentional in our efforts to contemplate, evaluate and contribute to Hip-Hop culture through education.

Teachers, Nurses, and Families:

Countdown to a Healthy Start – Read this article online, or [download the PDF here](#).

Resources for Learning

How to Code and for Teaching Students How to Code:

<https://code.org/learn/beyond>

Quote of the Week

“Their persistence in searching out strategies to [serve the needs of the school’s children] was motivated not by bureaucratic mandate or directives from superiors, but by moral commitment to children, rooted in their awareness of the needs of these children and their beliefs about the significance of their roles, as teachers, in these children’s lives.”
 -- Thomas Sergiovanni, 2007



NEWS AND NOTES

TST BOCES Stakeholder Survey

Each year, we reach out to all of stakeholders, asking for your input. All of us at TST BOCES would be grateful if you would take a few minutes to [complete this survey](#). In the spirit of our tagline – Together we learn, lead, support, and serve.

Right Question Institute

[The Right Question Institute](#) makes it possible for all people to learn to ask better questions and participate more effectively in key decisions.

WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES

Unit Planning for All Learners Summer Series

Think and Collaborate Outside of the Box. Plan innovative teaching to generate creative learning. The TST BOCES School Improvement Services Team will be working together to help general educators, special educators, and other educators collaborate in creating unit plans that are inclusive, affirming, and relevant for all students. This will NOT look like what you are used to - we will NOT be delivering instruction while you sit and get it. Teachers will be doing the work and the thinking - we'll be listening, observing, facilitating, coaching, and supporting. There will be three series offered this summer, and each will be three days long. [Click here for more information and to register.](#)

Making Number Talks Matter – Literature Based, Self-Guided Professional Development

This independent professional development opportunity invites participants to read about, reflect upon, and consider implementing this nationally renowned teaching strategy highlighted in [Making Number Talks Matter: Developing Mathematical Practices and Deepening Understanding, Grades 4-10](#) (Humphreys & Parker, 2015). Number Talks are five to fifteen minute classroom conversations around purposefully crafted computation problems that are solved mentally. They support instruction of both the Common Core Math Standards and Mathematical Practices. They result in the increase of students' sense making and encourage divergent thinking in classrooms. [Sign up here.](#)

Need to know how to write an IEP or want to make sure you are writing your IEPs the correct way?

Come to this New York State Department of Education vetted workshop! Monday, May 2, from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at TST BOCES. The IEP identifies a student's unique needs and how a school will strategically address those needs. This training provides extensive information about developing an IEP consistent with state law and regulation. It encompasses details about the state's required IEP form and accompanying guidance document, and provides a step-by-step approach to the IEP development process. We will cover Present Levels of Performance to Measurable Annual Goals and then some! There will also be a discussion on how to align the IEP to the Common Core Learning Standards. [To register click here.](#)

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WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES, *continued*

Understanding the Continuum of Services for Students with Disabilities

At TST BOCES on Tuesday, May 3, from 8–11 a.m. This full day training is based upon the Continuum of Services for school-age Students with Disabilities. Topics of discussion include: New York State Laws and Regulations Specially Designed Instruction Resource Room Consultant Teacher Co-Teaching Special Class Participants will get a chance to explore the continuum in their districts and create an action plan based upon NYSED regulations. [To register click here.](#)

Civic Ensemble Storytelling Workshop for Teachers- June 2 from 4–5:30 p.m. at TST BOCES.

Join Civic Ensemble for a storytelling workshop that establishes community, provides an opportunity for reflection, and develops resilience to challenges. Given the pressures and challenges teachers today face, it's important to stop and reflect on our experiences and create space for sharing that is non-judgmental. Civic Ensemble's story circle methodology provides an opportunity for participants to share their stories about schooling and education and listen to the stories of others. Refreshments provided and time for reflection and discussion included. [Click here for more information, and to register.](#)

Using Assessment in Instruction Independent Study - Try something different!

Educators will earn 6 professional development Hours for successfully completing this independent study, which focuses on formative assessment. Use online articles and videos to learn more about formative assessment. Then apply what you learn

in the classroom and gather and reflect on evidence to show how your application of this learning has impacted your students. Once you've enrolled, you will be able to go to the "team room" to access the directions and other materials. When all of your work is completed, you will email the documentation form and any other appropriate artifacts to me at bderfel@tstboces.org. The course will remain open until June 1. At that time I will take final attendance and all participants who have completed the work will be able to mark this course complete. [Sign up here.](#)

Taking Informed Action – Promoting Meaningful Engagement

Tuesday July 12 – Thursday July 14 from 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at SUNY Cortland. Choosing to Participate focuses on civic choices — the decisions we make about ourselves and others in our community, nation, and world. The choices we make, both large and small, may not seem important at the time, but little by little they shape us as individuals and responsible global citizens. Co-sponsored by Facing History, Teacher Professional Development of Central New York, and TST BOCES. [For more information.](#)



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FOR PRINCIPALS

[How Great Leaders Inspire Action](#)

Coaching Teachers: An Important Principal

Role – Along with reading the brief article, check out the resources at the end of the piece.

International School Leadership –

“International School Leadership Ltd. (ISL) is a subsidiary of the Ontario Principals’ Council devoted to the provision of exemplary professional development for teachers, principals, school heads and system leaders around the world. Our programs are grounded in current research from around the globe, the Ontario (Canada) experience in striving for excellence, and the Ontario Principals’ Council history of delivering exemplary professional development.”

LINKS, ARTICLES & BOOKS

- [Dividing Classes - How the Middle Class Negotiates and Rationalizes School Advantage](#), by Ellen Brantfanger, 2003
- [Revitalizing Natural History Education by Design](#), Kolan & Poleman, 2009.
- [Girls Who Code](#)
- [Shape America](#)

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



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