

# 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

### Resiliency

As we begin preparing for the new school year, let's challenge ourselves to plan a few specific ways we will intentionally help our students and staff learn and practice resiliency.

## NEWS AND NOTES

### Cooperative Purchasing Information Session

The TST BOCES Energy Management Program cordially invites you to a free information session and panel discussion to help answer any questions you might have about this unique procurement option. The discussion will focus on the nuts and bolts of participating in the purchasing groups, as well as the pros and cons of cooperative purchasing vs. the more traditional lowest-bidder environment. This is especially pertinent for business officials, directors of facilities and anyone who has to purchase either equipment or services for their school district. Click [here](#) for more information.

### Newsletters

[Building Bridges](#)

[C3 Teachers Update](#)

## FOR PRINCIPALS

### Monthly Council for Assistant Principals/Deans of Students

Associate Principal/Assistant Principal/Dean of Students Monthly Council. TST BOCES is considering offering a monthly AP/Dean of Students council, similar to our Principal Councils, but facilitated to meet the unique needs of AP's and Deans. Send an email to Barry ([bderfel@tstboces.org](mailto:bderfel@tstboces.org)) if you are interested in participating.

### ASCD Conference on Educational Leadership

"Start setting goals and develop a solid plan for improving student achievement. Take your leadership skills to the next level at the 2016 ASCD Conference on Educational Leadership in National Harbor, Maryland, near Washington, D.C." More information can be found [here](#).

### Resources for Principals

- [Student-Led Conferences](#)
- [Google Docs Resources](#)

### Quote of the Week

"Our capacity to acknowledge and attend to personal difficulties while still working toward expectations is often defined as resilience. Resilience can be learned and practiced; it is not a genetic trait that we inherit."

-- Souers & Hall, 2016

THERE'S MORE!

## UPCOMING WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES

Click [here](#) to access our online catalog of professional development opportunities.

### Curriculum Integration of Yoga and Mindfulness

This “Conscious and Connected” training addresses: inclusion and connection, classroom behavior and management, special needs, test anxiety and focus, academic integration including math, science, music, art and physical education, Common Core curriculum integration, chair yoga, family participation, posture safety and recommendations for energy and emotional management, introduction to yoga philosophy and practice. The training is designed for the elementary level and is open to all districts in TST and the \$600 can be fully funded if the participant applies for funding. Click [here](#) for more information.

### Summer Science Institute for Elementary and Middle School Educators (Aug. 24 8 am to 3 pm)

Elementary and middle school educators are invited to TST BOCES for an intensive, fun and exciting science experience. Laurel Southard and Florianna Blanton from Cornell University will host a day long workshop focused on engaging students

through science.

The workshop will incorporate STEM, game-based learning, hands-on labs, student-led inquiry, problem-based and project-based learning, and the Next Generation Science Standards into four engaging activities that are easily reproduced in the classroom.

Connecting with Laurel and Florianna will also provide educators with the opportunity to borrow lab kits from Cornell University for use in their classrooms and provide a network of science educators that teachers can tap into.

The Teacher Professional Development Network Grant at SUNY Cortland will provide \$150/day stipends for participants who complete the workshop. Paperwork will be completed at the end of the event. Click [here](#) for more information.

### NYS Association for Women in Administration Conferences (click [here](#) for details)

### Project Look Sharp Position

A contracting position is available at Project Look Sharp to research and manage Project Look Sharp’s digital/online professional development work with K- 12 teachers and teacher education classes. This is a part-time position with flexible hours. Click [here](#) for more information.

### Smithsonian Exhibit to Tour the Region

The Smithsonian Institute’s “Exploring Human Origins: What Does It Mean to Be Human?” traveling library exhibit will be coming to the region in December, and will be hosted at the Tompkins County Public Library. Information about this exhibit can be found [here](#).

For teachers interested in finding out more about how to connect your class with this opportunity, contact Sunshine Miller, Coordinator of Cooperative Enrichment Services here at TST BOCES.

This [Dropbox folder](#) includes a skull activity and Cultural and Religious Sensitivity Teaching Strategies Resource. AP Biology teachers may also be interested in this [link](#) to the freely downloadable “Teaching Evolution through Human Examples” project materials.

### Cornell Institute for Biology

The Cornell Institute for Biology Teachers was created in 1989 to support high school biology teachers with workshops that introduced them to new content, hands-on field tested lab activities and access to expensive molecular biology equipment and models. For more information, visit their [website](#).

## LINKS, ARTICLES & BOOKS

- Affirming Diversity, (Sonia Nieto, 1996)
- [Teaching Africa Library – Boston University](#)
- [American Muslim Women’s Association](#)
- [Inclusive Schooling](#)

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

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School Improvement Services

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Barry Derfel, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction

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