

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

Getting to Know our Students

This week, let's provide our students with the chance to help us get to know them. Classroom teachers – you might ask your students to fill out an index card telling you who lives in their home, who's in their family and what they like to do when they are not in school. You might ask them to draw a picture, make a list or write a short paragraph sharing their hopes and dreams for this year. Those of us who are not classroom teachers might simply take a few minutes to ask students some of these questions while they wait in the lunch line, wait for the bus to leave, look on at a football game or come into the office to pick up or drop off paperwork.

NEWS AND NOTES

The New Jim Crow Community Book Read kicks off Monday, Sept. 19, with a panel discussion from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at The Green Star Space, 700 W. Buffalo St., Ithaca. The panel will be moderated by Stephanie Nevels, with panelists including Nicole LaFave (ICSD School Board), Russell Rickford (Professor, Cornell), Rachel Evarts (Mentor, Ultimate Re-Entry Opportunity Program) and Barry Briggs (Ultimate Re-Entry Opportunity Program). Remember to pick up your FREE copy of The New Jim Crow at the kick off!

The kickoff is part of a series that will feature free films and eight free community events based on chapter themes and what we can do locally to end injustice; those events are open to everyone, whether you read the book or not. Childcare and a free, light dinner are provided at each event. Groups are also organizing to read and discuss a chapter a month starting in September or October.

FOR PRINCIPALS

New York State Center for Rural Schools Interactive Data Tools

"The New York State Center for Rural Schools has developed a set of [Interactive Data Tools](#) using an Integrated Data System in partnership with Cornell's Program in Applied Demographics (PAD), the Community and Rural Development Institute (CaRDI), and Prism Decision Systems, with the guidance and financial support of the Rural Schools Association of New York State (RSA)."

>> [2016-2017 Council meeting dates](#)

Quote of the Week

"The student is the focal point of the work we do as teachers... Before the curriculum design process begins, as it progresses, and as curriculum is tested and refined in classroom practice, the best teachers are mindful that teaching is judged by successful learning and that learners will inevitably and appropriately influence the effectiveness of the art we practice."

-- Tomlinson & McTighe, 2006

THERE'S MORE ↓

tstboces.org

WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCES

National Board Certification Awareness Session (Oct. 11 @ TST BOCES Room A14 | 4-6 p.m.)

Created by teachers, for teachers, National Board Certification is the profession's mark of accomplished teaching. National Board Certification is the most rigorous, coveted and respected certification available in education! It is part of the growing education reform movement that is advancing student learning, improving teaching and making schools better!

As a National Board Certified Teacher, you will join the ranks of the nation's most accomplished teachers who help students develop the necessary skills to thrive in school, in the workplace and in the 21st century global economy!

This workshop will introduce you to the process of National Board, and encourage you to explore its many possibilities and benefits!

You will get an overview of the National Board Certification (NBC) process for teachers, union leaders or administrators. You will know the requirements, time lines, fees and options so that you are prepared to dive in ... or encourage others to. It will also provide information about the professional, financial and technical supports available to candidates. This is professional development that is completely aligned with the New York State Teaching Standards and APPR.

Sign up now in [My Learning Plan](#).

Building Trauma-Responsive Schools to Support Resiliency & Learning

Join us for an interactive and informative two-day training summit on trauma-responsiveness for school districts in the TST BOCES region. The summit, led by Gwen Olton M.A., R.N. of Coordinated Care Services Inc., Rochester, is designed to introduce participants to the essential elements of trauma-informed and responsive schools and how to apply that information to your daily practice and school cultures. To approach this essential topic from a variety of perspectives, school districts are encouraged to send a multidisciplinary team, including administrators, school support staff, family members, teachers and food and transportation staff.

The workshops in this summit are designed to be interactive and engaging. Participants will learn about how trauma affects



workshop

learning, the practice of trauma-responsive practice in education, view the "Paper Tigers" documentary, explore these topics deeply with the facilitator and work together to uncover ways to put their learning into practice. Please note that plans are fully underway to support and sustain the work that will begin at this summit in the year to come through TST BOCES and other local agencies.

There will be no charge for this summit thanks to sponsorship from TST BOCES, Franziska Racker Centers, and a New York State Early Recognition Grant.

For more information, check out this [flier](#), or contact Jaydn McCune at 607.257.1555 extension 5046, or by email at jaydnmcss@rackercenters.org Sign up via mlp [here](#).

Choosing to Participate – Taking Informed Action

If you teach social studies, this Facing History series is for you! 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. Educators will have direct support in aligning this work with New York State's Social Studies Curriculum expectations, as well as in creating inclusive, affirming, relevant and meaningful learning experiences that motivates young people to take informed action.

This two-day series will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Oct. 13-14 at TST BOCES. The series will be co-facilitated by the folks from Facing History and Barry Derfel, from TST BOCES. More information can be found [here](#). Sign up [here](#).

If you're looking for even more professional development opportunities, please check out our catalog via My Learning Plan. The catalog contains dozens of workshops, trainings and conferences.

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

FOR TEACHERS

National Board Certification

“Now more than ever, teachers must prove themselves in a constantly changing education landscape. Board certification allows teachers to hone their practice, showcase their talent in the classroom and demonstrate their dedication to their students and their profession.”

To find out more about National Board Certification, or to begin the application process, check out this [link](#).

Fostering Reading Comprehension for Children in Grade 3 to Grade 6 at Tier One or Core Instruction

This three-session webinar strand will focus on developing high level reading comprehension for ALL students in the intermediate grades. First session begins Nov. 2. More information can be found [here](#).

Developing Reading Comprehension for Children in Pre-K to Grade 2 at Tier One or Core Instruction

This three-session webinar strand will address how teachers can increase the effectiveness of teacher read-alouds, shared reading of complex texts, and small group reading of instructional level texts for developing the comprehension of young children. First session begins Sept. 28. More information can be found [here](#).

WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCES (CONTINUED)

What Does It Mean to be Human?

The Johnson Museum of Art in conjunction with TST BOCES will host a six installment course to coincide with the Smithsonian Exhibit “Exploring Human Origins: What Does It Mean to be Human.” This blended course will be part Facebook discussion and face-to-face meetings at the Johnson. Participants can elect to sign up for the full six-session course through this [link](#), or sign up for partial sessions and credit through other links and course listings in My Learning Plan.

Facebook Sessions will be scheduled in conjunction with readings for each face-to-face meeting listed. Participants will read and reflect, then post discussion questions through the course Facebook page. Participants must participate in discussions and the face-to-face session to receive Professional Development credit.

Sessions will explore the intersections of art, literature, history, music, and what it means to be human. Full course participants will receive 18 hours of professional development credit; one hour for reading/curricular work, one hour for posting/commenting/discussion, one hour for face-to-face exploration of the session topic at the Johnson MOA. Partial course participants will receive Professional Development credit based on the sessions they participate in/attend.

Sessions at the Johnson Museum of Art

Session 1: Oct. 6
Session 2: Nov. 3
Session 3: Dec. 1
Session 4: Feb. 2
Session 5: March 2
Session 6: April 6

LINKS, ARTICLES & BOOKS

- *Metrics Matter: How Properties and Perceptions of Data Shape Teachers' Instructional Responses*, Farrel & Marsh, 2016.
- [Seeing the Future Through the New Science Standards](#)
- [They Fought Back – The Story of Jewish Resistance in Nazi Europe](#), by Yuri Suhl

Contact Barry to borrow a book or article.