TST BOCES
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School Improvement Services

Leading and supporting school communities in their efforts to provide the best possible learning environment for all students.

Barry Derfel
Assistant Superintendent for Instruction

607-257-1551, ext. 1004
bderfel@tstboces.org
T: @barry_derfel

TST BOCES
555 Warren Road
Ithaca, NY 14850

FOCUS OF THE WEEK

Let's talk with our colleagues and our young people about this week's quote, which is taken directly from the introduction to the New York State P -12 Science Learning Standards. Do we agree and think these assumptions and aspirations are worthy of pursuing? If so, why, and if not, why not?

NEWS & NOTES

2017 Fall Newsletter for Mathematics

Updated resources related to New York State Learning Standards

"Over the last couple of weeks, the Board of Regents and the State Education Department (NYSED) have taken measures to help students and teachers displaced by recent natural disasters. On Monday, the Board of Regents took action to allow teachers displaced by Hurricane Maria to obtain temporary nonrenewable teaching certification in New York State. And last week, NYSED issued guidance to school districts to help students displaced by the recent hurricanes.

TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION

As part of our offerings of "Modeling in Science" we are also pushing the boundaries of engagement and connectedness through the use of FlipGrid. FlipGrid encourages discussions through the use of individually recorded videos or uploaded video to stimulate learners' thinking while allowing all learners define their voices. FlipGrid also allows you to attach files from Google Docs, OneNote or any website as the stimulus for your Topics. Please consider attending our "Modeling in Science" workshop and get first hand experience using FlipGrid!

Quote of the Week

"In summary, today's children live in a society where many of their peers are from diverse backgrounds and speak different languages; one where technology is ubiquitous and central to daily life. They will enter a workforce and economy that demands critical thinking skills, and strong communication and social skills for full participation in society. This new society and economy has implications for today's education system—especially our instruction to foster a deeper and different set of communication and critical thinking skills, with significant attention to STEM" (Introduction to New York State P -12 Science Learning Standards).

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES

Offered through our folks here at TST BOCES

Modeling In Science

Join us on October 31st for an exploration of the science and engineering practice of developing and using models to explain phenomena. Learning targets include: I can explore ways to uncover and assess student preconceptions of science phenomena; I can explore ways to facilitate learning experiences and challenge student preconceptions; I will identify instructional strategies to reinforce and extend scientifically accurate ideas. Sign up for the morning, the afternoon, or both. More information and registration in mlp.

Social Studies •

Social Studies - Seriously, can anyone honestly say that now is not the right time to give young people a chance to generate compelling questions, engage in evidence-based inquiry, and take informed action based on what they've learned? This is precisely what the NYS Social Studies Framework urges us to do, and this fall, you have multiple options to choose from, to help you do this in your classroom. See this flier for details, and links to register in mlp.

G Suite Online Learning Academy

Enroll here and begin the course at any time. This Individualized Professional Development Opportunity directly supports our Regional Priorities. Some of the learning targets come directly from Charlotte Danielson's Framework for Teaching Rubric. Specifically, they represent critical attributes in the proficient column of item: *1d. Demonstrating Knowledge of Resources*. Educators will earn 5 Professional Development Hours for successfully completing all 5 Challenges. The educator will: Immerse themselves in the G Suite environment as they learn how to use the tools covered in the G Suite Academy; apply their knowledge as they create artifacts using G Suite; reflect on evidence to show how the application of these tools can impact students. Learning Targets: I will be able to use the G Suite platform to integrate technology as a tool to improve student learning; create a collaborative environment with colleagues and students that streamlines workflows; envision using these tools with students within and outside of the classroom to enhance student learning.

Offered by other organizations and/or our consultants

Gaming in the Classroom

A full day workshop on October 27th that will discuss uses for games and how to craft games for the classroom. Participants will use a combination of game design principles matched with learning goals and learning standards to inform the design. Time for game creation for your classroom (both analog and digital) will be built into the day. please bring along any relevant material on the subject, as well as any learning goals and standards that apply. Alex Williams is a graduate of the Rochester Institute of Technology, with a degree Game Design and Development. Alex has a strong passion for understanding how we learn and how to apply that to both games and education on the whole. After designing a number of games, both analog and digital, purely for entertainment, he has begun designing games for education and specifically for teachers to use in their classroom. Sign up in mlp.

NICERC Computer Science Workshop

Nicerc's two-day Computer Science workshop on November 8th & 9th is a hands-on, projects-based day that utilizes a unique computing platform to engage participants in an immersive exploration of the breadth of computer science. The workshop will utilize Raspberry Pi's (a tiny and affordable computer that you can use to learn programming through fun, practical projects) as an instructional tool. The TST Media Library will also have these devices that can be borrowed by our regional schools. Participants will have access to free computer science curriculum. More details and registration in mlp.

PREVIOUS BULLETINS

Click here to read previous bulletins.

For Teachers

Have you seen the articles, resources, and videos available through Edutopia? Check these out here.

This Conversation with Hip Hop's Pioneers provides insight, humor, and inspiration.

This Online Reference Guide to African American History can support your own learning, as well as your students'.

"Since 1969, Appalshop has been enacting cultural organizing and place-based media, arts and education to document the life, celebrate the culture, and voice the concerns of people living in Appalachia and rural America."

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

Blueprint for Improved Results for Students with Disabilities:

NYSED Blueprint for Improved Results for Students with Disabilities

Kids as Self Advocates can help us work towards a key principle of the Blueprint.

Perhaps you and your students want to read the actual Americans with Disabilities Act, or learn more about related laws and initiatives.

Links, Articles & Books

Culturally Responsive Mathematics Education by Greer, Mukhopadhyay, Powell, and Nelson-Barber, 2009.
Neighbor to Neighbor, Nation to Nation - Readings about the Relationship of the Onondaga Nation with Central New York (ask Barry for a free copy).
Center for Study of White American Culture

Contact Barry to borrow a book or article

For Principals

Restorative Justice - What it is and is not, by the editors of *Rethinking Schools*.

Resources to help you and your teachers learn about and address issues of class.

GLSEN resources can help you make your school more affirming for everyone.

Do you have people in your school who identify as girls or women? Do you have people in your school who have girls or women in their families or classes? If so, maybe they'd be interested in the *National Women's History Project - Writing Women Back Into History*. More than a few amazing resources here.