

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.



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

How do we honor and integrate multicultural perspectives through materials, lesson plans, displays, and experiences that do not privilege any dominant group? Let's talk with students and colleagues about this question, even if it may push us out of comfort zones. We can learn from each other how to do this more routinely and effectively.

NEWS & NOTES

Don't miss out on this unique opportunity. Here's your chance to visit local classrooms to observe promising practices as they unfold in a live teaching environment with students engaged in learning. Regional Demonstration Classrooms in the areas of Math, ELA, and Science are now open and ready to accept visitors! Check out [this flier](#) for details, including information about how to sign up to participate.

Webinar scheduled for *Tuesday, November 21, 2017 at 10:00 am - 11:00 am* in support of the Guidance: [Students Displaced by Recent Hurricanes](#). After a series of recent hurricanes, New York is seeing an influx of students and families from Texas, Florida, and Puerto Rico. Often, students and families who have been displaced by a natural disaster will qualify as McKinney-Vento eligible. This webinar will review the protections afforded to those students and families under the McKinney-Vento Act as well as resources related to supporting students through the trauma of losing their homes in a natural disaster. For registration information regarding this webinar please go to: [registration information](#).

Disaster Displaced Student Survey - The New York State Education Department is requesting that Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) complete the "Disaster Displaced Student Survey" linked below regarding the number of students displaced by the recent Hurricanes (Harvey, Irma and Maria) and Earthquakes. To keep an ongoing count, we are asking that you submit this survey by **Thursday, November 9, 2017** and every Thursday thereafter. We are exploring ways to support districts and seek additional funding to best serve incoming students and families, and it is critical that we gather complete data to accurately address districts' needs. Click here to access the survey: [Disaster Displaced Student Survey](#). For your reference, here is a link to NYSED's recent Guidance Memorandum on Students Displaced by Recent Hurricanes: [Students Displaced by Recent Hurricanes](#).

Keyboarding Guidance - As mentioned in the recently-released [Technology Literacy Memo](#), [Guidance on Keyboarding Instruction](#) is now posted on the Office of Educational Design and Technology's website. Keyboarding is an important skill that allows students to write with fluency. As schools prepare for the transition to the NYS Next Generation English Language Arts Learning Standards, and continue the transition to computer-based testing for 3-8 English Language Arts and Mathematics, it is important that they begin planning for keyboarding instruction. A list of [commonly-used keyboarding instruction programs](#) in New York is also available on the Office of Educational Design and Technology's website. The list was generated from responses to NYSED's survey on keyboarding instruction, released in early fall 2017.

Quote of the Week

"In the diverse classroom, educators are careful to honor and integrate multicultural perspectives through materials, lesson plans, displays, and experiences that do not privilege any dominant group. They use culturally sustaining approaches to affirm children's identities and frame diversity in positive terms" (NYS Introduction to Next Generation Early Learning Standards).



UPCOMING WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES

Looking for more PD opportunities?

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

Offered through our folks here at TST BOCES

Modeling In Science

Join us on November 14th 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](#).

Reimagining Schools - Continuing the Conversation

SUNY Cortland, TST BOCES, and OCM BOCES are thrilled to continue our conversation on moving from OLD School to BOLD School. This conversation, started on August 14th with guest presenter Will Richardson, is intended to encourage districts within the region to embrace innovation in the school and the classroom. We welcome both new and returning participants to join us Tuesday, November 14th at 4:30 p.m. to continue our discussion! Learning Targets: I can explain the 10 Principles of Modern Learning that lead a Bold School; I can articulate priorities for Bold thinking through discussion with regional colleagues; I can analyze Bold principles to refine my plans for school improvement. Sign up now [in mlp](#).

Using Assessment in Instruction - Independent Study PD

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 & 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. Sign up now [in mlp](#). The course will remain open until June 1, 2018. At that time I will take final attendance and all participants who have completed the work will be able to mark this course complete.

Offered by other organizations and/or our consultants

Human Rights Education Beginning With K-12 Literature, November 20 from 4:00-6:00

Are you aware of the often subtle verbal and pictorial biases - both positive and negative - found in classical and contemporary classroom literature? When selecting trade books do you explicitly consider issues such as global awareness and cultural diversity? Teaching human rights from early childhood through secondary level literature means: emphasizing dignity and worth of each person; introducing the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world; empowering individuals to defend their own rights and those of others, and understanding that Human Rights are universal, inalienable, indivisible. This session will focus on K-12 human rights educational Goals, Key Concepts, Practices, Specific Human Rights Problems, and Human Rights Standards as they are or are not reinforced in trade book selections. Sign up [in mlp](#).

The Ladder Of Prejudice: From Name Calling To Genocide, December 6th from 4:00 - 6:00

How can educators and students promote tolerance in our society? In his book, *The Nature of Prejudice*, Gordon W. Allport uses the metaphor of a ladder to describe how "little acts," which often go unnoticed, can lead to more serious and disruptive individual and collective behaviors, by both perpetrators and victims. This framework describes, in ascending order, five "rungs" of intolerance and injustice: speech, avoidance, discrimination, physical attack, extermination. In this workshop educators will have opportunity to apply the Ladder of Prejudice to grade-specific content and help students identify parallels in their lives and current events. We will identify examples of intolerant behaviors from our own experiences as well as those involving students, parents, community leaders, the media, and "high profile" persons in political and popular culture. Participants then identify ways to facilitate safe discussions about these experiences and promote tolerance in our - and our students' - everyday lives. Sign up [in mlp](#).

Frontline Education Professional Learning Management Certification Course at TST BOCES Tuesday and Wednesday, December 12 and 13 from 8:30 - 3:30

Frontline's Professional Learning Management Certification Course is a two-day hands-on training intended to support organization administrators (aka super administrators) in effectively using the Professional Learning Management system. The price for this course is \$695 per registrant. For districts bringing more than one individual, a \$100 discount will be applied for each additional user on the invoice! [Register here](#).

Save the Date for this Spring - Going Global: Leveraging Resources for International Education

Hosted by Cornell's Southeast Asia Program and the Cornell-Syracuse South Asia Consortium on Saturday March 10, 2018, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM on the Tompkins Cortland Community College campus. Check out the flier [here](#). Register [here](#).

Our 2017 - 2018 Regional Priorities will help us support every student:

1. [Supporting students' mental health, and their social & emotional well-being](#)
2. [Student-driven learning](#)
3. [Questioning and discussion techniques](#)
4. [Engaging students in learning](#)
5. [Using assessment in instruction](#)

Blueprint for Improved Results for Students with Disabilities:

[NYSED Blueprint for Improved Results for Students with Disabilities](#)
<http://www.thearc.org/who-we-are/media-center/people-first-language>
<http://thereasonijump.com/>
<https://www.disabilityisnatural.com/>
<http://www.fvkasa.org/index.php>

TST TECH CREW UPDATES

["Are Interactive Whiteboards Dead?"](#) As ideas around classroom design and student learning have evolved so have the mediums for sharing information with each other. Read the article and share your thoughts via the interactive padlet.



FOR TEACHERS

[Government Teaching Jobs Abroad](#)
[How a Classroom Game Becomes Embedded Assessment](#)
[Formative Assessment is Transformational](#)

LINKS, ARTICLES & BOOKS

The School Principal and Student Learning Capacity, Adams, Olsen, and Ware 2017
Culturally Sustaining Pedagogies Paris and Alim, 2017.
<https://nyln.org/>

Contact Barry to borrow a book or article

[CLICK HERE FOR PREVIOUS BULLETINS](#)

FOR PRINCIPALS

[A Guide to Student-Led Conferences](#)
[When Students Lead Parent-Teacher Conferences](#)

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Dr. Jeffrey Matteson, District Superintendent
Barry Derfel, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction

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