

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

In the spirit of today's quote, let's find out what happens to our thinking when we put learning at the center, rather than teaching. Specifically, consistently replacing the terms "teach" and "teaching" with "learn" and "learning" in our conversations with colleagues, families, and students. Does this help us change power relationships in meaningful ways?

NEWS & NOTES

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](#).

The Educator Guides to the 2018 Grades 3-8 English Language Arts and Mathematics Tests are [now posted](#). The Educator Guides have been consolidated to include all grades in one document for each subject. Information about the design of the Spring 2018 two-session tests as well as other important information for educators is included.

LINKS, ARTICLES & BOOKS

[Motivation, Engagement, and Student Voice](#) Toshalis & Nakkula, 2012
[Out of My Mind](#) by Sharon M. Draper, 2010.
[Native American and Indigenous Studies Program - Cornell University](#)

Contact Barry to borrow a book or article

TST TECH CREW UPDATES

The TST Tech Crew has VR gear for your students to explore and play! Click [here](#) for more info! (Scroll down once you open the page to see the full set of details.) Contact Paul or Justin if you would like to bring this gear and learning to your students.



Quote of the Week

"We need to rethink the power relationships we create in schools between students, teachers, administrators, and parents, and understand how those relationships support or inhibit deep student learning" (Richardson & Dixon, 2017).



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](#).

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](#).

Reimaging 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](#).

Offered by other organizations and/or our consultants

Are you interested in creating formative assessments to get a more accurate picture of what your ELLs know and can do and adjust your instruction accordingly? The ELL Assessment Series is an interactive, professional, blended learning experience. The series begin with one face to face full-day session facilitated by Dr. Diane Staehr Fenner on December 18, 2017. On that day, participants will focus on assessment issues for ELLs, such as validity and reliability, and adding more practical assessment tools to their toolbox.

Participants will continue their journey with a differentiated interactive online component – one component for educators in elementary schools and one component for educators at the secondary school level. The self-guided, facilitated online component will run from January through March 2018. Each month participants will listen to one recorded webinar, complete an application activity, and take part in an on-line discussion with peers facilitated by Drs. Staehr Fenner and Sydney Snyder. During this on-line portion participants will focus on creating and trying out formative assessments tailored to ELLs at different grade and proficiency levels. Participants will also take a deeper look together at grading ELLs' classwork and assessments.

The series will conclude with one full-day session facilitated by Dr. Staehr Fenner on April 9, 2018, which will allow participants to learn about considerations in the computer-based assessment of ELLs, share their assessment strategies with others, and plan for the formative assessment of their ELLs for the remainder of the school year. Upon successful completion of all portions of the ELL Assessment Series (two face-to-face sessions and the on-line component), participants will receive a certificate for 20 CTLE hours from SupportEd. Register [here](#).

EMPOWERING YOUTH VOICES in the 21st CENTURY: From Small Steps to Big Results - November 8 4:00 - 6:30 (session 1/2).

Fostering student understanding/engagement in social, economic, and political problems can be overwhelming in our polarized and information-overloaded society. Early/reinforced in-depth knowledge about societal issues and interdisciplinary outreach activities are key elements in fostering citizenship skills that future generations need to promote peace and security. 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](#).

[HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION BEGINNING WITH K-12 LITERATURE November 20, 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 6, 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](#).

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](#)

[Sign up here for the UDL E - Newsletter](#)

[UDL1: A Framework for Addressing Learner Variability: Theory into Practice](#) – A non-facilitated self-paced course.
[How Youth Learn](#)

[CLICK HERE FOR PREVIOUS BULLETINS](#)

FOR TEACHERS

Check out the [New York State Standards Introductions](#) in ELA, Math, Social Studies, Science, and the Arts.
[Geography and Map Collections](#) - Library of Congress
[Performing Arts Collection](#) - Library of Congress

FOR PRINCIPALS

["Want Stronger Culture? Stop Leading, and Start Designing"](#)
[Multipliers: How the Best Leaders Make Everyone Smarter](#)
Christopher Emdin - [Teach teachers how to create magic](#)

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