

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

This week, let's focus in on our regional priority to support student driven learning. We can ask students and colleagues what they think student driven learning means, and what they think about the idea of promoting more student driven learning in our classrooms and schools.

NEWS & NOTES

The SUNY Cortland Ed Leadership Program will be holding an information session on the Ed Leadership program and application process on Monday, Feb 19th from 6-7 pm at Corey Union Fireplace Lounge. [See this flier](#) for more details, and [this link](#) for a map of the campus.

The SUNY Cortland Ed Leadership Reimagining Schools spring conference will be held on April 19th 6:30- 9:00 pm at SUNY Cortland Sperry building RM 105. The evening will begin with an introduction of the film "Re:Thinking" by director/producer Deborah C. Hoard and Dr. Luvelle Brown, superintendent of the Ithaca City School District. This locally-produced documentary follows four school districts over the course of three years as they successfully meet public education requirements, while embracing a culture that emphasizes thinking over memorization and values the whole child, not as an empty vessel to be filled but as an adult-in-training. This film will kick off the SUNY Cortland Blackbird film festival and is free and open to the public. For more, see <https://www.rethinkingmovie.com>

LINKS, ARTICLES & BOOKS

[National Museum of African American History and Culture](#)

Lationo/a and Black Students and Mathematics, Guitierrez & Irving, 2012.

Feminism Without Borders, Chandra Talpade Mohanty 2003.

Contact Barry to borrow a book or article



Quote of the Week

"Personalized learning is a progressively student-driven model of education that empowers students to pursue aspirations, investigate problems, design solutions, chase curiosities, and create performances" (Zmuda, Curtis & Ullman 2015).

[CLICK HERE FOR PREVIOUS BULLETINS](#)



UPCOMING WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES

Offered through our folks here at TST BOCES

Looking for more PD opportunities?

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

Please see [this brochure](#) for descriptions of the Youth Development Program Professional Development Offerings.

Connect, Create, Innovate - March 16, 2018

Connect: Connect participants to resources, research, programs and artists, and each other as well as connect students to best practices and cutting edge pedagogy. **Create:** Many of the workshops are based in experiential learning. Participants will be actively doing while they learn. Many are hands-on and integrated with project and problem based learning that investigate the intersection of creativity and experience. **Innovate:** Innovation is sparked by collaborative creative thought and engagement. Participants will have opportunities to network with teachers in their content areas as well as integrate and connect with new educational partners. There will be tabling by artists and vendors from throughout the region. More information regarding presenters, sessions, and an agenda for the day can be found on our webpage connectcreateinnovate.wordpress.com. Please complete the session registration [here](#).

Next Generation ELA Awareness Session - March 21 at TST BOCES

Learning Targets: 1. I can clarify the changes between the NYS CCLS in ELA and the NYS Next Generation Learning Standards in ELA; 2. I can make informed decisions regarding future curricular adjustments. Hard copies of session resources will not be distributed. Participants can download/print resources by title [by clicking here](#). Morning session from 8:30 - 11:00. [Sign up here](#). Afternoon session, from 12:30 - 3:00. [Sign up here](#). See [this flier](#) for more information.

Sustainable School Gardening Seminar - March 6, 2018, 8:30AM – 2:30PM at TST BOCES

School gardens have been spreading widely during the last few years and offer an amazing opportunity for outdoor educational experiences as well as indoor lessons and activities that compliment all grade levels and nearly any subject area. This full day seminar will look at the important angles to explore and plan when you are establishing, expanding or sustaining a school garden. Led by Josh Dolan, Community and School Garden Specialist at Cornell Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County and Laurie Pattington teacher and director of Ithaca City School District's Farm to Table program, the day will be broken into four sections: Establishing a garden for both beginner and intermediate gardeners, Sustainable School Gardening, Sustainable Curriculum, and Sustainable Human Capacity. Learning Targets: I can plan, establish, expand, and/or sustain a school garden; I can integrate a school garden into the curriculum in ways that are standards-aligned. This seminar will be located in the Seneca Smart room, and will run from 8:30 - 2:30. More information can be [found here](#). Register in [Frontline/MLP](#). Please contact Alissa Elghazi (607-257-1551, ext. 1048, or aelghazi@tstboces.org) if you do not have a Frontline/MLP account. (Co-Sponsored by TST BOCES, Cornell Cooperative Enrichment, and Ithaca City School District)

Offered by other organizations and/or our consultants

Youth Mental Health First Aid Tuesday February 27, 2018 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM at SUNY Cortland

Youth Mental Health First Aid is an 8 hour public education program that introduces participants to the unique risk factors and warning signs of mental health problems in adolescents, builds understanding of the importance of early intervention, and teaches individuals how to help an adolescent in crisis or experiencing a mental health challenge. Mental Health First Aid uses role-playing and simulations to demonstrate how to assess a mental health crisis; select interventions and provide initial help; and connect young people to professional, peer, social, and self-help care. [Details can be found here](#). Register in [Frontline](#).

Mindfulness in the Classroom, Thursday March 1, 2018 from 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM at SUNY Cortland

Are you looking for ways to help calm, focus, and energize your students? The practices of mindfulness and mindful yoga in the classroom have been shown to decrease stress, improve both emotional and physical health, and teach self-regulation and focusing skills. Learn to bring these benefits to your student and your school. Participants will: Develop an understanding of the practices of mindfulness; Learn how stress affects the brain to impede learning and how mindfulness can change the brain's response to stress; Explain how mindfulness can support student mental health and wellbeing; Return to the classroom with techniques to try right away and resources for developing new approaches. [More information can be found here](#). Register in [Frontline](#).

Building Trauma Responsive and Resilient School Environments. May 15 and May 16 from 8:30am – 2:30 pm at the Racker Learning Center 3226 Wilkins Rd, Ithaca NY 14850.

Please join us for an important experiential training opportunity! This workshop will be led by the Expanding Possibilities Team: Tamie Pushlar, LCSW-R, Jaydn McCune, LCSW, Nora Rucker, M. Ed., Sally Manning, M.S. School personal in all positions are invited to join us as we learn ways to work together to create school cultures that are resilient and responsive to students and staff who have experienced trauma or toxic stress. Through interactive discussion, videos, lectures and experiential exercises we will explore: 1) How trauma and toxic stress effect the brain and learning 2) Ways to build staff and student resilience 3) Practical strategies to use within classrooms and schools that are trauma and resilience informed. Schools may want to consider sending a multidisciplinary team to this event. Registrants must attend both days. Coffee, water and light snacks will be available but participants will be asked to bring their own lunch. Please register through TST BOCES in [Frontline](#) (mlp), and [see this flier](#) for more details. Feel free to call Jaydn McCune at 607-351-3436 with questions. Hope to see you there!

Recognizing, Understanding, Labeling, Expressing, and Regulating (RULER) Training, Tuesday March 13, 2018 from 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM at SUNY Cortland.

RULER is an evidence-based approach for integrating social and emotional learning into schools by teaching the skills of emotional intelligence. Decades of research show that these skills are essential to effective teaching and learning, sound decision making, physical and mental health, and success in school and beyond. This approach, from the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence, gives a unique depth and consistency to social and emotional learning that empowers school leaders and teachers to create a genuinely safe space for students to learn and grow. [More information can be found here](#). Register in [Frontline](#).

Looking for more PD opportunities?

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

OUR [2017 - 2018 REGIONAL PRIORITIES](#) WILL HELP US SUPPORT

EVERY STUDENT:

Jennifer Astles and her Youth Development team have created a [Social and Emotional Learning Benchmark Rubric](#) that provides clear and specific look-fors connected to each of the five Social and Emotional Learning Competencies identified by CASEL as the core elements to supporting student's social and emotional well-being. We hope this tool will be useful to teachers and administrators in your efforts to do this work.

Research & Resources connected to each priority (a work in progress):

1. Supporting students' mental health and their social & emotional well-being
 - a. ["A Meta-Analysis"](#)
2. Student-driven learning
 - a. [Learning Personalized](#)
3. Questioning and discussion techniques
 - a. [Danielson Rubric – Teacher Uses a Variety of Questions \(8-video set\)](#)
4. Engaging students in learning
 - a. [The Case of Brain Science and Guided Play – A Developing Story \(NAEYC\)](#)
5. Using assessment in instruction
 - a. [Formative Assessment and Self-Regulated Learning: A Model and 7 Principles of Good Feedback Practice](#)

Blueprint for Improved Results for Students with Disabilities:

[NYSED Blueprint for Improved Results for Students with Disabilities](#)
[Disability is Natural](#)
[Inclusive Education Wiki](#)

FOR TEACHERS

[Texas Teacher Wears Same Hairstyle as Student Who Didn't Believe She Really Liked Her Hair](#)
[Center for Study of White American Culture](#)
[A Conversation with Hip Hop Pioneers](#)
[Teaching Hard History - American Slavery](#)

FOR PRINCIPALS

[Black Disabled Woman Syllabus: A Compilation](#)
[Resources to support your school in promoting Black History](#)