

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

For these two weeks, let's work at getting to know what students in our classrooms and schools really care about; what they hope and dream for the present and the future. To make this actionable, connect with one other adult and agree that you will each ask a few students the questions and then share with each other what you learn.

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

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

- Supporting students' mental health and their social & emotional well-being
 - ["A Meta-Analysis"](#)
 - 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.
 - [Social and Emotional Learning under ESSA - Evidence Review](#)
- Student-driven learning
 - [Learning Personalized](#)
- Questioning and discussion techniques
 - [Danielson Rubric – Teacher Uses a Variety of Questions \(8-video set\)](#)
- Engaging students in learning
 - [The Case of Brain Science and Guided Play – A Developing Story\(NAEYC\)](#)
- Using assessment in instruction
 - [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](#)

[Broadreach Training and Resources - Videos](#)

[The Fingerlakes Independence Center](#)

[Co-Teaching Basics](#) (Jennifer Gondek's Inclusion Wiki)

Quote of the Week

"[We] find young people striving and struggling to make a life for themselves, an authentic life capable of surmounting challenges and accessing supports in their everyday world. A life that makes sense to them, in their world - this is what motivation, engagement, and student voice address" (Toshalis & Nakkula 2012).

NEWS & NOTES

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>.

National Youth Science Camp (June 27, 2018-July 21, 2018). Applications due February 28, 2018. The National Youth Science Camp is a residential science education program for young STEM enthusiasts the summer after they graduate from high school. Two graduating high school students will be selected to represent New York at the all-expenses paid honors program which will be held from June 27, 2018 through July 21, 2018. More information is available on the attached flier "Apply to NYSCamp 2018 RD.pdf" and at <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/awardsforexcellence.html>. The online application to attend the 2018 National Youth Science Camp (NYSC) is now available at <http://apply.nysc.org/>. All applications and all supporting documents/forms must be submitted online no later than 6:00 PM EST February 28, 2018. Questions regarding the National Youth Science Camp may be directed to Amanda Zullo, Office of Curriculum and Instruction, at 518-474-5922 oremcurric@nysed.gov.

STEM Opportunity at Oak Ridge Nat'l Labs (TN) For HS & MS Students and HS Teachers (July 7-20, 2018). Applications due March 16, 2018. New York State Education Department and New York State Department of State are soliciting applications from high school and middle school students and from high school STEM teachers to attend a unique two-week residential hands-on learning institute at Oak Ridge National Laboratories (ORNL) in Tennessee (July 7-20, 2018). This extraordinary learning opportunity is sponsored by the Appalachian Region Commission (ARC), a federal and 13-state economic development/anti-poverty program. Each ARC's member state is allocated just two seats each for high school teachers and high school students. A one-week version of this program (July 15-20, 2018) will be offered to two selected middle school students from each state. This is a highly selective opportunity. Application forms and supporting information are available online at <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/arc/home.html>. The deadline for online submission of all applications and all supporting documents/forms is no later than 8:00 AM EST Friday, March 16, 2018. The opportunity is specifically intended to benefit economically disadvantaged students who can be inspired to pursue STEM studies and teachers who can influence disadvantaged populations. Applications will only be considered from teachers and students of schools located in the following counties: Allegany, Broome, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Chemung, Chenango, Cortland, Delaware, Otsego, Schoharie, Schuyler, Steuben, Tioga, and Tompkins. Travel expenses and a stipend for educators is included with selected participation. Questions regarding the ARC/ORNL Summer STEM Program may be directed to Amanda Zullo, Office of Curriculum and Instruction, at 518-474-5922 or emscurric@nysed.gov.

2017-2018 Presidential Award of Excellent in Math and Science Teaching; Nominations Due April 1, 2018; Applications Due May 1, 2018. Established by Congress in 1983, the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST) are the highest honors bestowed by the United States government specifically for K-12 mathematics and science (including computer science) teaching. New York State is looking for nominations and applications of outstanding primary level (grades K-6) mathematics and science (including computer science) teachers that spark students' imaginations in STEM education through innovative teaching and learning. Sponsored by the National Science Foundation on behalf of the White House, the PAEMST is the highest honor in the Nation that teachers of mathematics and science may receive for outstanding teaching and leadership in their respective fields. For information regarding the nomination and application process please see this "Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (2017-2018) PDF. Questions regarding the PAEMST cycle may be directed to the Office of Curriculum and Instruction, at 518-474-5922 or emscurric@nysed.gov or info@paemst.org.

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES

Offered through our folks here at TST BOCES

Looking for more PD opportunities?

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

Demonstration Classrooms

Don't miss out on this unique opportunity - there are many new opportunities openings for visits in the next few months. 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, Science, Technology, and Strength Conditioning are now open and ready to accept visitors! Check out [this flier](#) for details, including information about how to sign up to participate.

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)

Caring for Your Students' Minds Without Losing Yours: Trauma & Toxic Stress in the Classroom Sessions. Session One - March 8th from 3:30 - 5:30 at TST BOCES.

Social Emotional Learning & Trauma-Informed Schools are popular buzzwords, but what do we really know about fostering a positive learning environment when so often students seem to be emotional, reactive, frustrated, and excitable? This workshop will arm teachers with current best practices for addressing these concerns while fostering their own self-care. [Sign up here](#) Session two - April 11th from 3:30 - 5:30 at TST BOCES. Session two will be a guided group discussion using [Fostering Resilient Learners: Strategies for Creating a Trauma Sensitive Classroom](#) as a springboard for putting these ideas into practical use in the classroom. Participants in both sessions will receive a copy of the text. More information can be found on this flier.

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.

Offered by other organizations and/or our consultants

Looking for more PD opportunities?

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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!

FOR TEACHERS

[Talking Race in the Suburbs](#)

[We Don't Say Goodbye](#) - Produced by WSKG TV's Bill Jaker, a documentary with stories from residents near Binghamton, NY and Ithaca, NY... about living through the Holocaust.

[Arab American National Museum](#)

FOR PRINCIPALS

Do you have teachers who are teaching about Africa, perhaps in 3rd grade, 6th grade, or 9th & 10th grade. They may find the [Teaching Africa Library](#) through Boston University a helpful resource.

Looking to promote more student voice in your school? [This resource](#) can help.

LINKS, ARTICLES & BOOKS

[Advanced Manufacturing](#)

[MIT Technology Review - Advanced Manufacturing](#)

"We're in a diversity crisis": cofounder of Black in AI on what's poisoning algorithms in our lives, Jackie Snow 2018.

Black on White - Black Writers on What It Means to Be White, Roediger, David 1998.

Contact Barry to borrow a book or article

[CLICK HERE FOR PREVIOUS BULLETINS](#)

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

SIS Weekly Bulletin

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