

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

This week, let's all work on deepening our ability to include and affirm every student by learning more about identities different from our own. This set of [Culture-Generated and Affirming Resources](#) is a good place to start.

NEWS & NOTES

Thank you for your input! We received 161 responses to our School Improvement Services Needs Assessment Survey, and we appreciate so many of you taking the time to honestly reflect on your practice and share your thinking with us. In the future, we will put the section on demographic information at the front of the survey, along with a brief explanation of the survey's purpose. We will also make it optional for you to include your email address, as some people indicated that they prefer their responses to be anonymous.

We have just begun the process of reviewing the data to learn what it shows, in terms of how to best support you this spring. Some of the early takeaways include noticing that you would like support in helping students initiate higher order questions, helping students take initiative to modify a learning task to make it more meaningful or relevant to their needs, helping students enrich discussions by extending them, and helping students reflect on a lesson to consolidate their thinking. As we dig deeper into the data, we will share our insights with you, as well as sharing how we intend to follow up.

[Supporting Students with Interrupted/Inconsistent Formal Education \(SIFE\)](#) "The Office of Bilingual Education and World Languages (OBEWL) is pleased to present a set of valuable resources designed to support districts and schools in the education of Students with Interrupted/Inconsistent Formal Education (SIFE)."

[Child Development Council](#) information, resources, trainings, and programs.

LINKS, ARTICLES & BOOKS

[Latino/a and Black Students and Mathematics](#), Gutierrez & Irving, 2012.

[If Your Back's Not Bent - The Role of the Citizenship Education Program in the Civil Rights Movement](#), Dorothy F. Cotton 2012.

[Embedding Social and Emotional Learning in School Classrooms](#), Lieber, Tissiere, and 2017.

Contact Barry to borrow a book or article

[CLICK HERE FOR PREVIOUS BULLETINS](#)

Quote of the Week

"How might school look if students (especially immigrants) were encouraged to use forms of mathematics they knew from their home countries? How might students feel about themselves and their ancestors if the mathematics they knew from practices outside of school were valued or built upon?" (Gutierrez & Irving, 2012).

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](#).

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](#).

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:

[Review the Blueprint here.](#)
[People First Language](#)
[Kids As Self Advocates](#)

FOR TEACHERS

[My Favorite No](#) (Teaching Channel)

[Geometry Playground](#)

[Faultline - Seismic Science at the Epicenter](#)

[Culturally Situated Design Tools](#) (Especially helpful for Mathematics Teachers.)

From Commissioner Elia - Understanding the Opioid Epidemic - WNED-TV's [Understanding the Opioid Epidemic](#) is a one-hour documentary that traces the causes behind the unprecedented growth in the use of prescription opioids and the devastating impact these drugs are having in every part of America. The documentary aired on PBS stations January 17. Classroom curriculum is available to accompany the television program. The lessons are intended for students in grades 7-8 but include ideas for adapting for use with students in grades 9-12. Lesson content is based on the documentary and other important themes such as misperceptions about opioid safety, community awareness, brain science, stigma, and the struggles associated with treatment and recovery. Lessons are aligned to National Health Education Standards. [Lesson plans are available on PBS LearningMedia.](#) [Watch the whole program and find more resources.](#)

FOR PRINCIPALS

[Every Kid Needs a Champion](#) (Rita Pierson)

[Exploratorium Education Resources](#) - You may want to share some of the resources on this site with your teachers. "The Exploratorium is a public learning laboratory exploring the world through science, art, and human perception. Our mission is to create inquiry-based experiences that transform learning worldwide. We develop innovative learning environments, enthusiastic leaders, and new knowledge for teacher professional development."

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SIS Weekly Bulletin

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