

Winter/Spring 2008 Course Catalog

To register, contact Kathy Harasta at 763-3282 or kharasta@btboces.org
Registration is required for all classes. Payment is required at time of registration.

The TEACHER CENTER of Broome County

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www.teachercenter.info

The Bully Free Classroom

Monday, January 28, 2008, 4:00-6:30 p.m. Instructor: Jan Fiore. Fee: \$5.00 school staff/\$8.00 community. Audience: K-12 educators. Up to 90 percent of students say they are bothered by bullying. Bullying is a big problem in schools today - and you can do something about it. This workshop will present useful approaches to this age-old problem. Included will be strategies for helping students deal with potential conflicts in positive ways. Each participant will receive a copy of the book The Bully Free Classroom.

Living with MRSA in our Schools and Communities

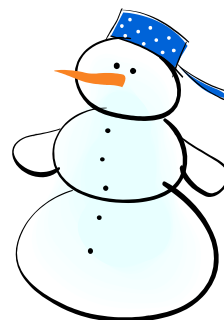
Wednesday, January 30, 2008, 4:00-5:30 p.m. Instructor: Kathleen Tanton. Fee: \$5.00 school staff/\$8.00 community. MRSA is a staph infection that is resistant to some antibiotics and its prevalence is causing increased anxiety and concern for parents, students and school staff. This workshop will provide factual information on what it is, how it is transmitted, signs and symptoms of what to look for, when to seek medical attention, treatment and most importantly PREVENTION. Proactive strategies that the school community can implement to ensure a safe environment will be discussed.

Creating Killer Podcasts on a Macintosh Computer

Monday, February 4, 2008, 4:30-6:30 p.m. Location: Chenango Valley High School. Instructor: Michael Breed. Fee: \$5.00 school staff/\$8.00 community. Audience: Teachers of any grade level with a desire to incorporate podcasting into their curriculum. Pre-requisite: Intermediate computer skills. Podcasting is quickly becoming a very popular medium for distributing educational content, whether it is created by the teacher or a student. Content produced by students is quickly becoming recognized as one of our most powerful learning tools. This course will show you how to create podcasts using a Macintosh computer. Teachers will use the Mac platform to learn how to create professional-sounding podcasts quickly and easily. All participants in the class will receive a CD filled with content and ideas to take back to their own classes.

Working As A Team: Teachers and Paraprofessionals

Monday, February 4, 2008, 4:00-6:00 pm. Instructor: Jane Whittock. Fee: \$5.00 school staff/\$8.00 community. Audience: Grades K-12 educators who work with paraprofessionals. Paraeducators also known as teacher aides, teaching assistants, and instructional assistants are playing an increasingly important role in schools. Most teachers, however, have never been trained to work effectively with other adults in their classrooms. This workshop will offer straightforward advice and focused activities that can help forge a productive working relationship between teachers and paraeducators.



Introduction to Thinkfinity for Middle and High School Educators

Thursday, February 7, 2008 4:00-6:00 pm. Instructor: Sue Halpern. Fee: \$5.00 school staff/\$8.00 community. Pre-requisite: basic computer skills. Are you looking for ways to integrate technology into your curriculum or lessons aligned to the NYS Standards for topics you want to teach your students? Look no further than Thinkfinity. Thinkfinity is a nonprofit consortium of eight of the nation's premier educational organizations and the Verizon Foundation. Together, they have developed a website that provides the highest quality classroom resources on the Internet. In New York State, Teacher Centers have partnered with NYSED to develop and provide lessons tied to our learning standards, and the Teacher Center is committed to bringing this powerful tool for student improvement to educators throughout the community. Attend this introduction to learn about the resource.

SmartBoard Magic

Wednesday, February 13, 2008 4:00-6:00 pm. Instructor: Gail Szeliga. Fee: \$5.00 school staff/\$8.00 community. Audience: K-12 educators. Pre-requisite: basic computer skills. Teachers of any subject or grade level will be amazed at all the features of the SMART Board interactive whiteboard. During this session the fundamental features of the SMART Board and accompanying Smart Notebook software will be demonstrated. Sample interactive lessons pertaining to all subject areas are available online. Come see this revolutionary tool for creating interactive learning activities in action.

Defensive Driving

Mondays, February 25 & March 3, 2008, 5:30-8:30 pm. Conference Room A, BOCES Instructional Support Area, Glenwood Road, Binghamton. Instructor: John Wiktor. Fee: \$25.00 NYSUT members and family, \$30.00 others. Must register through Teacher Center. Fee payable at first class. This workshop will help you reduce your auto insurance premiums and any points you (or family members) may have on your license. Brush up on your knowledge and driving skills in order to make you and your family members safe. Co-sponsored by NYSUT.

Technology Integration in General Music

Wednesday, February 27, 2008, 4:00-6:00 pm. Instructor: Judy Coderre. Fee: \$5.00 school staff/\$8.00 community. Audience: K-12 music educators. Pre-requisite: intermediate knowledge of PowerPoint. Participants will view and discuss ideas on how to integrate PowerPoint in the music curriculum. Learn how to insert sound files and videos of performances, hyperlink to the Internet, insert graphics and making interactive games on topics such as music history, elements, composers and the like.

Response to Intervention

Wednesday, February 28, 2008, 4:30-6:30 pm. Instructor: Shannon Reardon. Fee: \$5.00 school staff/\$8.00 community. Audience: K-4 general education teachers, K-6 reading and special education teachers. The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, IDEA, was rewritten and signed into law in early December 2004. This Act changes many sections of the statute to reflect new ideas about learning disabilities and the concept of a pre-identification strategy called Response to Intervention or RTI. This workshop will give an overview of RTI, updates to IDEA 2004, and new special education criteria, a presentation on delivery of service. The concluding activity will be a make and take highlighting best practices for struggling readers.



Freebies on the Web

Tuesday, March 4, 2008, 4:00-6:00 pm. Instructor: Gail Szeliga. Fee: \$5.00 school staff/\$8.00 community. Audience: All interested educators. Did you say FREE? Images, lesson plans and management tools! Find out where to find sites that offer copyright-friendly image libraries, awesome lesson plans, along with management tools that allow you to create rubrics, graphic organizers and other useful resources. All these resources are totally free. All that is needed is an internet connection and basic computer skills.



Visual Thinking Strategies

Wednesdays, March 5 & 19, 2008, 4:00-6:00 pm. Instructor: Katherine Bouman, Director of Education at Roberson Museum and Science Center. Location: Roberson Museum. Fee: \$10.00 school staff/\$16.00 community. Visual Thinking Strategies (VTS) focuses on aesthetic and cognitive development that results from interaction with art. VTS teaches students ways to examine and interpret works of art using critical thinking skills. Participants at this highly interactive workshop will learn teaching strategies that they can use for the rest of their lives. Based in the research of Developmental Psychologist Abigail Housen and supported by Theorist Howard Gardner, VTS strengthens students' literacy and critical thinking skills while inspiring curiosity. Teachers who attend will receive two high quality art prints to use as they experiment with VTS in their own classrooms.

Blogs and Wikis: Creative Literacy Activities

Wednesday, March 5, 2008, 4:00-6:00 pm. Instructor: Beth Sullivan. Fee: \$5.00 school staff/\$8.00 community. Pre-requisite: intermediate computer skills. Blogs and Wikis are relatively new technology tools that teachers are just beginning to use. During this workshop, the instructor will demonstrate how you can begin using blogs and wikis in your classroom to improve reading and writing skills, increase student engagement, allow for family involvement and meet state standards in a variety of content areas. Teachers will leave with materials that will enable them to immediately begin using these tools in their classrooms.

Using Tactual Materials in a Learning Styles Classroom: A Hands On Approach

March 10, 2008, 4:00-6:00 pm. Instructor: Aaron Truesdell. Fee: \$5.00 school staff/\$8.00 community. Audience: Any interested educators. Are you looking for tactual resources that maintains high interest and enthusiasm for students whose learning style favors a more kinesthetic approach? This make and take workshop will present easy to make and extremely effective resources for tactual students at all levels. These resources can be created by the students and used as learning tools, study aids and/or educational games. Research has shown a positive correlation between tactual and kinesthetic resource involvement and an increase in achievement. All supplies and materials will be provided and instructional handouts will be distributed to all attendees.

Math for Humans: Teaching Math Through Eight Intelligences

Wednesday, March 12, 2008, 4:00-6:00 pm. Instructor: Julie Larson. Fee: \$10.00 school staff/\$16.00 community. Math for Humans: Teaching Math Through Eight Intelligences by Mark Wahl is an excellent reference and activity book for beginning and veteran teachers alike and can be used for all levels of mathematical instruction. The book provides examples of how to

"season", as Wahl likes to say, math lessons with the multiple intelligences (MI). A brief review of the theory of MI will be presented. Hands-on activities from the book that can be used in your classroom, will be the main focus of this workshop. Participants from our consortium schools who attend will receive this \$35 book for FREE!



Microsoft Word for the Absolute Beginner

Thursday, March 13, 2008, 4:00-6:00 pm. Instructor: Kathleen Quaranta. Fee: \$5.00 school staff/\$8.00 community. This workshop will teach the absolute beginner the features of Microsoft Word, presented in an easy-to-follow format. Participants will be walked through the basics, from starting Word to creating, editing, and formatting documents. If you have always wanted to use and understand word processing, this is the workshop for you!

Using Microsoft PowerPoint to Play Jeopardy

Monday, March 17, 2008, 4:00-6:00 pm. Instructor: Gail Szeliga. Fee: \$5.00 school staff/\$8.00 community. Audience: K-12 educators. Pre-requisite: knowledge of PowerPoint. Looking for an easy way to integrate technology into your curriculum? Try PowerPoint Jeopardy. This workshop will demonstrate how to use a digital template to develop a Jeopardy game that can be used by students to review instructional content. Participants will be asked to bring a paper template listing five categories with five answers and questions under each category so that they can walk away with at least one fully completed game.

Elementary Math Centers

Tuesday, March 18, 2008, 4:00-6:00 pm. Instructors: Rebecca Brown & Lynn Voorhis. Fee: \$5.00 school staff/\$8.00 school staff. Audience: Grades 1-3 educators. Designed for elementary teachers, this workshop will present ideas on creating meaningful and engaging hands-on math centers that directly align with NYS Math standards. These centers can be easily modified to fit the needs and abilities of your students and parallel your curriculum.

Eating Disorders: Research and Practical Help

Wednesday, March 26, 2008, 4:00-6:00 pm. Instructor: Jennifer Weggman. Fee: \$5.00 school staff/\$8.00 community. Eating disorders affect an estimated 5 million Americans every year. Anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa and binge-eating disorder will be covered. In this workshop you will gain a better understanding of these disorders by looking at the characteristics of each disorder, medical complications and treatment options. Warning signs to look for in students will be outlined.

Introduction to Thinkfinity for Elementary School Educators

Monday, March 31, 2008 4:00-6:00 pm. Instructor: Sue Halpern. Fee: \$5.00 school staff/\$8.00 community. Pre-requisite: basic computer skills. Are you looking for ways to integrate technology into your curriculum or lessons aligned to the NYS Standards for topics you want to teach your students? Look no further than Thinkfinity. Thinkfinity is a nonprofit consortium of eight of the nation's premier educational organizations and the Verizon Foundation. Together, they have developed a website that provides the highest quality classroom resources on the Internet. In New York State, Teacher Centers have partnered with NYSED to develop and provide lessons tied to our learning standards, and the Teacher Center is committed to bringing this powerful tool for student improvement to educators throughout the community. Attend this introduction to learn about the resource.

Organizational Patterns Guides for Improved Comprehension and Reasoning

Wednesday, April 2, 2008, 4:00-6:00 pm. Instructor: Cheryl Ebert. Fee: \$5.00 school staff/\$8.00 community. Audience: Grades 7-12 educators. Most information can be organized into universally recognized patterns. By teaching our students these patterns, and presenting our course content in this manner, teachers can make it much easier for their students to make connections between ideas and become skilled at logic and reasoning. Teachers should bring materials from their courses so that organizational patterns guides can be designed for use in the classroom.

Beyond the Marble Jar - Motivating Students to Become Self Directed

Thursday, April 3, 2008, 4:00-6:00 pm. Instructor: Beth Beach. Fee: \$5.00 school staff/\$8.00 community. Audience: Grades K-5 teachers with 5 years or less experience. Today's classroom teacher has many challenges and is held more accountable for student achievement than ever before. Often, new teachers also have to contend with the reality of day-to-day life in the classroom. The objective of the workshop is to present newer classroom teachers with specific techniques that will make the classroom safe enough for students to take risks and become self-directed learners. Areas addressed include: behind the scenes management techniques, creating a classroom community, discipline-what that really means, and connecting with parents.

Talk With Your Hands! American Sign Language

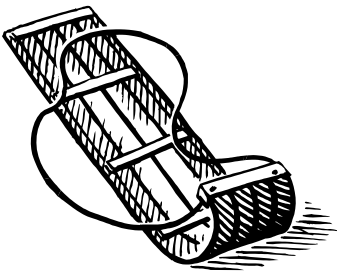
Wednesdays, April 23 & 30, 2008, 2008, 4:00-6:00 pm. Instructor: Aimee Hudock. Fee: \$10.00 school staff/\$16.00 community. Learn the basics of ASL (American Sign Language). Basic cultural misconceptions will be retaught. The alphabet, numbers, basic signing techniques, helpful hints, vocabulary and basic conversation will also be presented in this introductory workshop.

Plagiarism: What Can A Teacher Do?

Thursday, April 24, 2008, 2008, 4:00-6:00 pm. Instructor: Mary Ann Karre. Fee: \$5.00 school staff/\$8.00 community. This introductory workshop focuses on preventing and detecting plagiarism. What are common clues, and what can a teacher do when they suspect plagiarism? Strategies for teaching students how not to plagiarize and hints for creating more structured writing assignments will be outlined. Helpful Internet sites will be presented on a variety of plagiarism issues.

Listening & Notetaking Skills

Monday, April 28, 2008, 2008, 4:00-6:00 pm. Location: Homer Brink Elementary School, Endwell. Instructor: Kathy Cornacchio. Fee: \$5.00 school staff/\$8.00 community. Audience: Grades 2-6 classroom, reading and special ed. educators. Would you like an approach that helps students become good note takers as they listen? If so, this workshop might be for you. The approach capitalizes on the common elements of Setting, Character, Beginning, Middle, End. Participants will practice note taking with the suggested format.



Teacher Center Workshop Registration Form

Send through interschool mail: Teacher Center of Broome County, WSKG Studios, BOCES #22 or register online at www.teachercenter.info. Follow the registration form link.

Name: _____ School: _____

E-mail (if read regularly):

Home Address: _____

Phone #s:

School: _____ Home: _____

Cell: _____

List the workshops below for which you are registering. Payment is due at time of registration. Make checks payable to "BOCES Teacher Center". Please submit a separate check for each workshop.

