

Suffolk's Edge

TEACHER CENTER

June 2009 Newsletter

Top Ten Reasons to Use SETC

Here are the top ten reasons for you to utilize the Suffolk's Edge Teacher Center (SETC):

1. **More mini grants:** Would you like funding for an innovative classroom project? Next year, the SETC has allocated even more funds to help you reach that goal. Projects with two or more teachers may receive up to \$1500, while single teacher projects may receive up to \$1200. Visit www.seteachercenter.org and click on "grants" for the application, a how-to PowerPoint, and samples of winning applications.
2. **Special education conference:** Our conference last year was so successful, we've planned a follow-up conference focusing on best practices and strategies to use with special needs students. Watch the website for details!
3. **Free inservice credit available in your district:** Interested in ThinkfinityNY training to find teaching and learning materials? Or perhaps you want more information on how to differentiate your chemistry classroom. You can see a sample catalogue at www.seteachercenter.org. Speak to your union president or district professional development administrator about setting up offerings

in your school or district.

4. **Graduate programs:** We offer Stony Brook and Dowling graduate courses, both in cohort format or as individual opportunities. If you have a specific request, give us a call. We'll be happy to research your request, and work toward setting up an off-campus course for your needs.
5. **Workroom:** If your school's laminator is out of film, or it's "on the fritz", give us a call to schedule a laminating session on either our hot or cold laminators. The hot laminator is free, while the thick, cold film costs 25 cents a foot. Our handy PosterPrinter printer can take your 8½ x 11 inch copy and enlarge it to full poster size (23 x 31). Many teachers use this machine to make posters of class rules and learning tips, advertisements for plays, and to enlarge illustrations. A fee of \$3 covers the cost of the special poster paper.
6. **Updated website:** Visit the Teacher Center website at www.seteachercenter.org in the fall for the latest information on courses, grant opportunities, newsletters, teacher links and other items of interest.
7. **Professional learning communities:** If you're interested in collaborative professional development that's job-embedded, perhaps professional learning communities (PLCs) are for you. Besides sponsoring Collegial Inquiry teams (information is on the website), the SETC can facilitate other types of PLCs in your building.
8. **E-newsletter:** Monthly information about educational initiatives, great websites, grant opportunities, free trainings, and classroom ideas is available to you directly. Just e-mail us at teacher_center@wsboces.org and request to be put on the E-news mailing list. We promise that your e-mail address will never be shared!
9. **Technology training:** We can offer you free inservice courses and workshops on integrating technology into your instruction. Topics such as interactive white boards, podcasts, internet research are available. Contact your union president or us at teacher_center@wsboces.org
10. **We're open this summer!** Please call 631-254-0107 for an appointment.

What Do You Think?



Traditionally, when it's time to schedule courses, workshops and other professional development in your district, the Suffolk's Edge Teacher Center asks your union and administration for guidance. Our Policy Board wants to serve you even better. So, now, we're asking you, too. A quick professional development survey is posted on our website at www.seteachercenter.org. It's a

perfect opportunity for you to tell us what you'd like in your school or district. The survey is completely anonymous, so there's no worry about confidentiality. If you identify your district and teaching area, we'll be able to tailor professional development opportunities in your district even more closely. We'll post results in the fall. Please, take a few minutes to let us know what you think!

SETC-sponsored NYSUT Courses

Summer session:

History and Philosophy of Education, EDSE 600 3 credits

James E. Allen Alt. School, Wheatley Heights
Patricia Mastrandrea, 8/10 to 8/14; M—F; 8—5

Multiple Intelligences Theory and Practice, SED 672 3 credits

Half Hollow Hills HS West, Dix Hills
Jeffrey Frankel, June 29, 30, July 1, 2 and another day to be determined. 8—5

To find out more and/or to register online, go to www.nysut.org/elt.

Sneak Preview—Scheduled for Fall 2009:

Assessment of Individual Differences, 3 credits

James E. Allen Alternative School, Wheatley Heights
Patricia Mastrandrea, Mondays, 9/21 to 12/7; 4 to 8:30 PM

Supporting Professional Learning Communities, 3 credits

James E. Allen Alternative School, Wheatley Heights
Jane Lombardo, Thursdays, 9/24 to 12/10; 4 to 8:30 PM

To find out more and/or to register online, go to www.nysut.org/elt.

Project P.A.T.C.H.

Project P.A.T.C.H. is the Law and Civic Education Program of the Northport – East Northport School District. The mission of this K – 12 program is to provide quality Law and Civic Education opportunities for the students of the Northport – East Northport School District. With over thirty years of experience in Law and Civic Education, Project P.A.T.C.H. is able to offer meaningful and unique learning experiences for Northport – East Northport students.

Project P.A.T.C.H. has enjoyed great success with Suffolk's Edge mini-grants to develop several innovative programs. An example of a successful use of a mini-grant includes a district-wide 5th grade Law and Literacy program that involves over 600 students per year in the use of Mock Trial to improve literacy skills. This successful district-wide program started as an idea supported by a Suffolk's Edge mini-grant several years ago with just two 5th grade classes participating. With mini-grant support the program has grown to include every 5th grader in the district. The mini-grant program has clearly provided a mechanism to create support for innovative ideas that allows them to flourish into meaningful programs with broad impact on student learning.

Peer Leadership Conference. From June 29 – July 3, 2009, Project P.A.T.C.H. will offer an in-service Summer Institute on Law and Civic Education in partnership with the Law, Youth and Citizenship Program of the New York State Bar Association. Teachers attending this institute have the opportunity to earn either in-service credit or graduate credit through SUNY Stony Brook's School of Professional Development.

If you would like to learn more about Project P.A.T.C.H., you can contact David Scott at (631) 262-6874 or by e-mail at patch@northport.k12.ny.us.

— Submitted by David Scott

NYC Neighborhood Walking Tour Websites

www.biginonion.com.

Tours of ethnic neighborhoods.

www.foodsofnyc.com.

Food-tasting and cultural walking tours.

www.newyorktalksandwalks.com.

Lower East Side, Brooklyn Bridge

www.noshwalks.com.

Culinary tours of New York.

www.nyctours.com

Walking tours focus on neighborhood history.

www.walkingnyctours.com

Gotham Walking tours. #5 in popularity

Suffolk's Edge Teacher Center
31 Lee Avenue
Wheatley Heights, NY 11798
631-254-0107
teacher_center@wsboces.org
www.seteachercenter.org
Jane Lombardo
Carol Weintraub
Elyse Eusanio

Neighboring districts are frequently invited to observe or participate in P.A.T.C.H. programs. The P.A.T.C.H. program has a long tradition of sharing best practices and encouraging replication of successful programs. Planned activities for the spring of 2009 include the 5th Grade Law and Literacy program, a forum on International Law and Human Rights, a Civil Law Moot Court Competition, a Forensic Science and Criminal Investigations Competition and a Peer Leadership Conference. From June 29 – July 3, 2009, Project P.A.T.C.H. will offer an in-service Summer Institute on Law and Civic