

THE ESSENTIALS

Enhancing Education with Educational Support Services

Dear Educators,

Welcome to Volume 7 of The ESSentials Newsletter! In this issue, we're shining a spotlight on Mathematics, a foundational subject that plays a vital role in student success across all grade levels. Mathematics in today's world isn't just about numbers—it's about critical thinking, problem-solving, and preparing students for real-world applications. We're excited to share program insights, resources, and educational services that can help educators create meaningful and engaging math experiences for all learners.

Warm regards,

Kate Davern, Director of Educational Support Services at Eastern Suffolk BOCES



THE FOCUS: MATH

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP SPOTLIGHT

Enhancing Retention and Developing Mathematical Language in the Mathematics Classroom Using High Intensity Instructional Techniques

Presented by Dr. Paul Riccomini

March 21, 2025 • 8:30 am – 2:30 pm • Instructional Support Center at Sequoya, Holtsville

Audience: K-12 Math Teachers, Special Education Teachers, Interventionists, Coaches; Administrators

Join us for an engaging professional development session tailored for mathematics teachers! This interactive session will provide strategies to support mathematical language development and boost long-term retention of essential concepts. Teachers will explore cognitive processes behind language development, engage in collaborative activities, and gain practical tools to apply in their classrooms.

Dr. Paul Riccomini is a recognized expert in mathematics education, specializing in high-intensity instructional techniques (HIIT) to enhance learning for all students. With a background in math and dual certifications in math and special education, he collaborates with educators to develop strategies that foster deep understanding and critical thinking.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: MATHEMATICS CONSULTANTS



Dr. Selma K. Bartholomew, affectionately known as Dr. B., is a visionary educator, accomplished leader, and seasoned mathematician. Dr. B.'s expertise spans across all levels of mathematics education, having imparted knowledge and inspiration to students and educators at various stages of their academic journeys.

Dr. B can help with: (Grades K-12) Bridging Number Sense and Algebra • Developing Academic Vocabulary • Building conceptual understanding in math and STEM • Questioning and reasoning in STEM classrooms • Implementing a Performance Based Assessment Model



Dr. Philip Dituri, Ph.D., is currently an educational consultant working with various schools and has extensive experience as a teacher, instructional coach, and chairperson of the Mathematics Department at New Design High School in Manhattan. While in public school, he was a three-time Math for America Master Teacher. Phil has a B.A. in Mathematics from NYU and a Ph.D. in Mathematics Education from Columbia University.

Dr. Dituri can help with: New Teacher Coaching/Intake • Collaborative Learning • Teacher Problem Solving • Financial Literacy & Personal Finance • Administrative Coaching & Consultation



Nicolle Santaromita has received math training from Marilyn Burns and has used a workshop style that incorporates small group, differentiated instruction, number talks, and formative assessment for many years. She is proficient in reading and writing workshop and word work. Nicolle has learned to parallel that ELA model into the math classroom with much success. Presently, Nicolle is an adjunct professor at LIU teaching math and science methodology courses.

Nicolle can help with: Math workshop model • Next Gen Math Standards • Model small group math instruction • Develop individualized math assessments • Demonstrate Record keeping for formative assessments

EASTERN SUFFOLK BOCES CONSULTANT NETWORK

To explore the extensive lineup of Eastern Suffolk BOCES educational consultants ready to support schools with their initiatives, please visit our website for a comprehensive directory featuring their bios and areas of expertise. Click [here](#) or scan the QR code to learn more.



ARTS-IN-EDUCATION

For more information contact Loretta Corbisiero-Drakos, Administrative Coordinator, at lcorbisi@esboces.org.

MATHEMATICS PROGRAMS FEATURED IN ART-IN-EDUCATION CATALOG

STEM Night – Long Island Children’s Museum

www.licm.org

Host a night of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math at your school! With the help of educators from Long Island Children’s Museum, families will work together to complete an exciting challenge such as designing a marble run or building a perch for a balancing bird. This program can be customized based on the number of families, grade level, and number of activities. Please contact Claire D’Emic, STEM Initiatives Program Director, at cdemic@licm.org for more information. <https://artsined.esboces.org/Programdetail.aspx?id=8963>

Power of Python & Graphing Solar Energy – Brookhaven National Lab

bnl.gov/education/programs/exploration-labs.php

This program explores statistical concepts such as mean and standard deviation. Students will be rolling different polyhedral dice while role playing various career scenarios at Brookhaven National Lab. Once students complete manual calculations, they will be introduced to Python code to automate the process. They will practice coding on provided laptops and compare their results between the polyhedral dice. <https://artsined.esboces.org/Programdetail.aspx?id=10012>

Math Magical – Academic Entertainment Inc.

www.academicentertainment.com

Do you want your students excited about math? Do you want them thinking math is awesome - even cool? Magician Brian Richards Math Magical program will get your elementary students pumped up about mathematics in a welcoming and affirming environment. In this high energy show, Brian will touch upon addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, fractions, probability, and more, plus it’s customized according to grade levels and student development! Using magic, comedy, audience participation promoting student leadership opportunities and other tools of the trade, Brian helps your kids discover that not only is math fun, but they need to Study Math to Be on a Better Path. Bring Math Magical to your school and get your students excited about Math!



SCAN TO ACCESS THE
ARTS-IN-EDUCATION
CATALOG

SAVE THE DATES!

FEBRUARY 12 / 13, 2025 – VIRTUAL CONFERENCE FOR KIDS

Virtual Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Math Educational workshops for grades 4 & 5 designed to explore interests, stimulate activity, and empower the potential of young minds.

MAY 20, 2025 – CONFERENCE FOR KIDS

STEAM Conference for students in grades 4 & 5. Hands-on workshops include magic, crime lab, cartooning, and more.



MODEL SCHOOLS



Click or scan to email Heather Ciccone, Program Administrator, for more info. hciccone@esboces.org



Aimsworld Plus: Boost Math Success

Aimsworld Plus offers universal benchmarking and progress monitoring in math, helping track classroom and individual growth. With tools like Math Facts Fluency and Number Comparison, it provides real-time insights to support student success.



i-Ready: Engaging Math Practice

i-Ready's interactive Learning Games make math fun for K–8 students, building skills and confidence with challenging standards. Designed to boost fluency and encourage positive, productive learning, these games support math growth through engaging practice.



NWEA: MAP® Growth™ Math

MAP® Growth™ Math is an interim adaptive assessment for grades K–12 that precisely measures student achievement and growth. Specific assessments for primary-grade students and students who speak Spanish are included with your MAP Growth Math K–12 license. For valuable data on student achievement and growth in specific upper-level math courses, assessments for Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, and Integrated Mathematics are also available.



Star Math: Evidence-based K–12 Math Assessments

Increase math mastery with actionable insight into each student's skills and subskills—whether you're teaching in-person, remotely, or hybrid. For universal screening, progress monitoring, goal setting, and more.

Freckle: Supporting Differentiated Practice and Instruction

Freckle is flexible, captivating every learner with differentiated practice, and is designed to be both teacher-led and student-paced. You can assign specific math exercises based on grade-level standards, and for students who need practice outside of their grade level, Freckle can provide self-paced practice that continuously adapts as they progress. Real-world lessons encourage students to work in groups to solve fun, practical challenges with the skills they've learned.

SCHOOL DATA BANK SERVICES

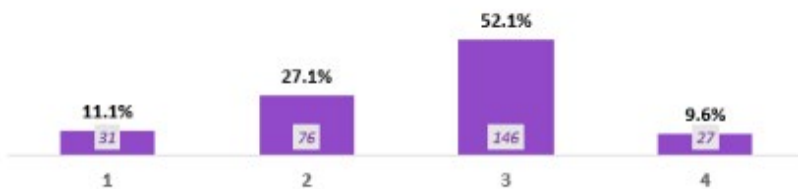
Contact Vanessa Biagioli-Dittrich, Program Administrator, for more information: SDBS@esboces.org

The School Data Bank Services team partners closely with district and school leaders, as well as lead educators, to harness data that empowers informed data-driven decisions. Our goal: to support continuous improvement and success for every student.

Our NYS Testing Program (NYSTP) Dashboard provides a clear, comprehensive view of student performance on the 2023 NYS Math assessments for Grades 3–5. With its Gap Analysis feature, you'll gain targeted insights into exam standards and question numbers, alongside the percentage of students who achieved full credit at the school, district, and regional (Suffolk County) levels. This feature identifies performance “gaps” by comparing outcomes across school, district, and regional data—helping you pinpoint key opportunities for growth and targeted support.

2023 NYSTP Grades 3-5 Math Performance Dashboard

2023 NYS Assessments, Grades 3-5:
Frequency Distribution by Performance Level



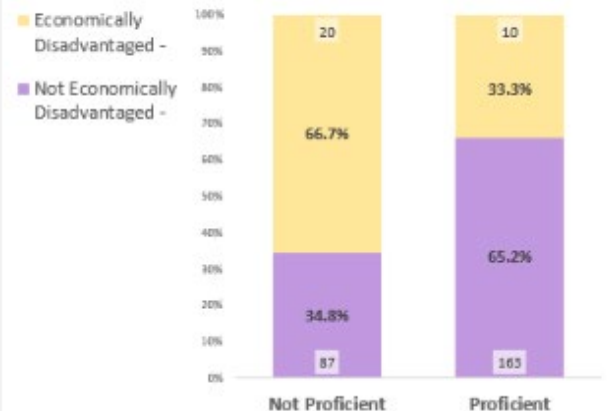
Percent & Count of Proficient Students



Percent & Count of Students With/Without IEPs
Scoring in Each Performance Level



Percent & Count of Students
Not Proficient/Proficient by Economic Status



SCHOOL LIBRARY SYSTEM





TumbleMath is a highly accessible collection of math picture books that feature a variety of books at different skill levels for grades K-6. If interested in learning more about this supplemental database contact the School Library System at SLShelp@esboces.org.

For more information contact Carl Vitevitch, Administrative Coordinator,
School Library System, 631-844-5603, cvitevitch@esboces.org


WORDS OF GRATITUDE: EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES SHINE




ARTS-IN-EDUCATION

-  “Brian Richards did a great job with the Math Magical assembly. He was engaging, funny, and infused a love of math into his presentation. Kids walked out of the magic show excited about math, and magic!” – Teacher
-  “Our school really enjoyed the Math Magical assembly with Brian Richards. The assembly was fun and engaging. Brian was able to manage a large group of excited students through a well-planned performance.” – Teacher



MODEL SCHOOLS

-  “I just wanted to take a minute to recognize our Ed-Tech Coaches Jen and Eileen. They conducted workshops with staff and students today introducing them to their Chromebooks, which were very successful. But on top of that, they have just been extremely supportive and responsive, and I'm very grateful. Thanks!” – Principal, Aquebogue Elementary School

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

-  “While I've read Todd's work, to learn from him in person is nothing short of a gift. I am so thankful to have had this opportunity. I can bring ideas back immediately to transform myself and my school.” – 20th Annual School & District Leadership Academy: Todd Whitaker, “What Great Leaders Do Differently”

SCHOOL LIBRARY SYSTEM

-  “This workshop (“The Science and Joy of Reading” with Donalyn Miller) gave me new ideas of how to supplement literacy education within the library”
-  “As a new librarian, this workshop (“The Science and Joy of Reading” with Donalyn Miller) helped give me some insight into the program that is being introduced at my school.”

SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOLS EXTENDED DAY ENRICHMENT

If you are interested in bringing the Eastern Suffolk BOCES Extended Day Enrichment program to your school districts contact Danielle Hudek, Program Administrator, and Nancy Dowdy-Adams, Assistant Administrative Coordinator, at schoolyearenrichment@esboces.org for more info.



Students at Clinton Elementary in Comsewogue demonstrated their estimating and measuring skills by calculating the precise amount of corn starch needed to fill their pumpkin balloon stress balls. This fun activity not only enhanced their math skills but also sparked creativity and problem-solving in a seasonal project that celebrates the spirit of fall!

Architecture and math skills at its finest! Our imaginative 1st graders at Timber Point Elementary in East Islip using their problem-solving skills, created incredible football fields specifically designed for dinosaurs to play on! This creative project showcased their creativity and passion for math, architecture and prehistoric creatures. It's amazing to see young imaginations come to life!



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Participants doing a hands-on experiment in the October 10th Biology Investigations workshop with Professional Development consultant Glen Cochrane.



UPCOMING EVENTS: DECEMBER 2024 & JANUARY 2025

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ANY OF THE EVENTS LISTED ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES, PLEASE USE THE COLOR-CODED KEY BELOW TO CONTACT EACH PROGRAM DIRECTLY. CLICK THE EVENT TITLE TO VIEW DETAILS AND REGISTER ON FRONTLINE, OR SCAN THE QR CODE TO ACCESS THE ENTIRE CATALOG.

PROGRAM	CONTACT
Arts-In-Education	artsined@esboces.org
Model Schools	mspd@esboces.org
Professional Development	pdonlinesupport@esboces.org
School Data Bank Services	sdb@esboces.org
School Library System	slshelp@esboces.org
Third Party Assessments	thirdpartyassessments@esboces.org
Curriculum Service	kbarnett@esboces.org

Educational Support Services

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DECEMBER 2024 & JANUARY 2025

VOLUME 7: MATHEMATICS

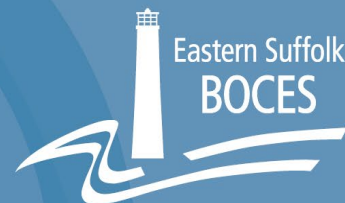
DECEMBER 2024



START DATE	EVENT	PROGRAM
12/1	LILIE ONLINE: Affirming Student Identity-Curators of Content	Model Schools
12/1	LILIE ONLINE: Bilingual Education - From Theory to Practice	Model Schools
12/1	LILIE Online: Encouraging Mindfulness into Today's Classroom	Model Schools
12/1	LILIE ONLINE: Engaging Family: Strengthening Ties through an Equity Based Approach	Model Schools
12/1	LILIE ONLINE: Maximizing Strengths and Abilities Supportive Approach for Students with Learning Diversity	Model Schools
12/1	LILIE ONLINE: The Good & Bad of Social Media: Function, Psychology & Usefulness of Social Media in our Students & Classrooms Today	Model Schools
12/4	Deeper Dive into New NYSED Biology Investigations Session 1: For the Birds and Balancing Act Facilitated by Glen Cochrane	Professional Development
12/4	LAS Links Online Data Dive Training-12/04/2024 (ESBOCES-LAS Links Cohort Only)	Third Party Assessment
12/4	Professional Learning Networks: Academic Intervention Services Presented by Dr. Maureen Martin	Professional Development
12/5	Math Centers for Operations Standards Presented by Nicolle Santaromita	Professional Development
12/5	Unpacking the Chemistry Performance Level Descriptions (PLDs) to Enhance Instruction and Assessment Presented by Kathleen Dinota	Professional Development
12/6	ADHD, Executive Function & Behavioral Challenges in the Classroom Presented by Dr. Bonni Cohen, PTS Coaching, LLC	Professional Development
12/6	How to Build the Master Schedule in Ten Easy Steps and Build Your Own Master Schedule Presented by Dr. Steven Kussin	Professional Development
12/9	Presenting With Purpose - A Behind the Scenes Look at Delivering an Effective Message Presented by Myron Dueck	Professional Development
12/9	Professional Learning Network - Social Studies Presented by Wendy Braxton	Professional Development
12/9	Online Overview of Wilson Foundations Pre K-K Presented by Allison McAvoy, Southeast Reading Center, LLC	Professional Development
12/9	Northwell Health Mental Health Program - Intrusive Thoughts	Professional Development
12/9	Discover What's New in Newsela Fall Session	Model Schools
12/10	Deeper Dive into New NYSED Earth and Space Sciences Investigations Session 1: Unearthing Mars - A Historical Perspective Facilitated by Brian Vorwald	Professional Development
12/10	The Blueprint for English Language Learners and Using Scaffolds and Strategies for Student Success Presented by Pamela Solomon	Professional Development

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DECEMBER 2024 & JANUARY 2025

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START DATE	EVENT	PROGRAM
12/10	Overview of Wilson Foundations Grades 1 - 2 Presented by Allison McAvoy, Southeast Reading	Professional Development
12/11	Science of Reading for Secondary ELA, ENL, and Special Education Teachers Presented by Amy Benjamin	Professional Development
12/11	AI Tools for Educators & the Conversations They Spark	Model Schools
12/11	PEACE Critical Community of Practice (CCoP) December	Arts-in-Education
12/12	MTSS-I: The Framework Presented by Dr. Maureen Martin	Professional Development
12/12	Smart Tech, Smarter Teaching: The Promise of AI in Education Presented by Mubina Khan Schroeder	Professional Development
12/12	Northwell Health Mental Health Program - Best Practices in Postvention & Crisis	Professional Development
12/13	Library Leadership Academy: Sooth.fyi	School Library System
12/16	Professional Learning Network - Mathematics - All Levels Presented by Dr. Selma K. Bartholomew	Professional Development
12/16	i-Ready New Teacher Training	Third Party Assessment
12/17	Deeper Dive into the New NYSED Biology Investigations Session 2: Unraveling the Mystery of Lactose Tolerance Facilitated by Glen Cochrane	Professional Development
12/17	Exploring the Qualities of Writing Across Text Types: Strategies that Push Writers to Excellence Presented by The Living Literacy Network	Professional Development
12/17	Library Leadership Academy: But I Don't Speak Spanish! How non-Spanish-speaking teachers can help Spanish-speaking students learn in English	School Library System
12/17	Model Schools Liaison Meeting	Model Schools
12/19	Library Leadership Academy: Sora and Digital Reading	School Library System

JANUARY 2025



START DATE	EVENT	PROGRAM
1/1	LILIE ONLINE: Classroom Strategies of Differentiated Learning	Model Schools
1/1	LILIE ONLINE: Cyber Bullying and Internet Safety	Model Schools
1/1	LILIE ONLINE: Endless Opportunities: Crafting a Google App Classroom	Model Schools

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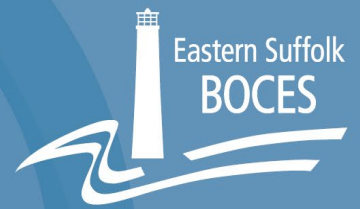
DECEMBER 2024 & JANUARY 2025

VOLUME 7: MATHEMATICS

START DATE	EVENT	PROGRAM
1/1	LILIE ONLINE: Engaging K-12 Learners Through Gamification	Model Schools
1/1	LILIE ONLINE: Literacy-A Fundamental Human Right	Model Schools
1/1	LILIE ONLINE: Supporting ELLs Through Cultural, Social, and Educational Transitions	Model Schools
1/6	Explore Mathematical Concepts K-12 with GeoGebra	Model Schools
1/7	Northwell Health Mental Health Program - Classroom Management	Professional Development
1/8	A Workspace Opportunity to Collaborate in Earth and Space Sciences Curriculum Development - Presented by Brian Vorwald	Curriculum Service
1/8	Library Leadership Academy: Raz-Plus Training (subscribers only)	School Library System
1/8	Library Leadership Academy: Raz-Plus ELL Edition Training (subscribers only)	School Library System
1/8	Library Leadership Academy: Science A-Z Training	School Library System
1/8	Library Leadership Academy: Vocabulary A-Z Training	School Library System
1/8	Library Leadership Academy: Writing A-Z Training	School Library System
1/8	Increase Productivity and Get Organized in Google	Model Schools
1/9	Administrative Solutions to Maximizing Co - Teaching Success Presented by Lakretz Creative Support Services	Professional Development
1/9	Deconstructing Symbols of Hate Presented by: The Holocaust Memorial Tolerance Center of Nassau County	Professional Development
1/9	An Overview of Autism Spectrum Disorders NYS Education Department Approved Training Presented by Dr. Jeanne Villani, Psy.D.	Professional Development
1/9	Let's Take a Look at the New York State Computer Science & Digital Fluency Standards	Model Schools
1/10	Math (6-12): How Do We Build Academic Vocabulary and Get Students to Write, Reason and Explain Their Approach Within Mathematics? - Dr. Selma K. Bartholomew	Professional Development
1/10	i-Ready New Teacher Training	Third Party Assessment
1/13	Building Bridges: De-Escalation Training Skills for a Safer School Environment Presented by Daniel McGee	Professional Development
1/14	Creating a Culture of Care: How to Implement Restorative Justice Practices in Your School and/or School District Presented by Adele Bovard	Professional Development
1/14	Effective Structures and Strategies to Teach Our Writers No Matter What Subject Area You Teach: Grades 6-12 Presented by Molly Feeney Wood	Professional Development
1/14	Library Leadership Academy: Podcast Power - Unleashing Student Voices in Your Library	School Library System

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START DATE	EVENT	PROGRAM
1/14	Library Leadership Academy: World Book Supplemental Databases	School Library System
1/15	DASA Coordinator Training Presented by Dr. Anne Rullan	Professional Development
1/15	Empowering Student Independence: Backward Design for Blended Learning	Model Schools
1/15	PEACE Critical Community of Practice (CCoP) January	Arts-in-Education
1/16	Deeper Dive into New NYSED Earth and Space Sciences Investigations Session 2 Presented by Brian Vorwald	Professional Development
1/16	Diversity, Equity, and Inclusivity Creating a Culture of Dignity in the Classroom: How to be a Culturally Responsive Educator Presented by Dr. Wafa Deeb-Westervelt	Professional Development
1/16	Introduction to Chat GPT for ELA, ENL, and Special Education Teachers Presented by Amy Benjamin	Professional Development
1/16	Library Leadership Academy: Hackersjack (AM Session)	School Library System
1/16	Library Leadership Academy: Hackersjack (PM Session)	School Library System
1/16	Top AI Tools for Teachers	Model Schools
1/17	Effective ENL Instructional Strategies Presented by Luisa Travaglia and Stella Kostopoulos, on behalf of C.I.T.E.	Professional Development
1/21	Artificial Intelligence (AI) Miniseries for Administrators Session 3	Model Schools
1/22	2024-2025 NYSAA Test Administrator Training Full-Day Virtual - Facilitated Training for the New York State Alternate Assessment Computer-Based Testing	School Data Bank Services
1/22	New York State Computer Science Digital Fluency Standards	Model Schools
1/22	The Reading & Writing Project Responsive Grammar Instruction Presented by Cynthia Satterlee	Professional Development
1/22	Library Leadership Academy: Beanstack	School Library System
1/22	ESBOCES ARTS INTEGRATION PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT - Thinking on Your Feet: Building a Creative Classroom Community Through Improv!	Arts-in-Education
1/22	Inspiring Educators to Discover the Potential of AI Using Office 365	Model Schools
1/23	Managing Difficult Classroom Conversations Through Historical Topics Presented by Wendy Blair-Braxton	Professional Development
1/24	Building Strong Schools to Strengthen Student Outcomes: The Seven Sure Solutions Presented by Dr. Howie Knoff	Professional Development
1/24	Library Leadership Academy: Science of Reading for School Librarians ~ Tools for Supporting Students and Collaborating with Teachers	School Library System
1/31	Effective CSE/CPSE Chairperson Leadership: Navigating Legal and Regulatory Compliance Presented by Bill McNally and Dr. Trish Hantzidiamantis	Professional Development

EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES DEPARTMENT WEBPAGE



esboces.org/ess

Follow us on our NEW Educational Support Services Instagram Page for professional development opportunities and program highlights!



Stay tuned for the Educational Support Services Facebook Page.

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