Model Schools
Regional Workshops Catalog 2025-2026

The Model Schools Program is a statewide initiative that offers support to teachers in the area of technology integration in order to facilitate the implementation of the New York State learning standards. The Eastern Suffolk BOCES Model Schools Educational Technology Coaches will be hosting a variety of Regional Workshops for the 2025-2026 school year. These workshops are offered free for districts participating in the Model Schools Program and for a fee for non-participating districts. If you are unsure if your district participates, you can check this list of participating districts on our **website**.

The link below will take you to the Eastern Suffolk BOCES Frontline (formerly My Learning Plan) catalog where you can find the listing of our workshops. Many of the workshops offer Continuing Teacher and Leader Education (CTLE) hours.

2025-2026 MODEL SCHOOLS REGIONAL WORKSHOP OFFERINGS

Location: Virtual or In-Person at ISC at Sequoya at 750 Waverly Avenue, Holtsville, NY 11742
*For virtual workshops, participants will receive an email confirmation with a link to join prior to the workshop. *

Please note: ***Cancellation policy****: If a participant has registered for, but is unable to attend, an Eastern Suffolk BOCES workshop, they are required to drop their workshop registration on Frontline/MLP at least* ***5 days*** *prior to the start date of the workshop. In the event the participant does not cancel within this timeframe, the participant/district will be billed.*

Non-Participating district fees for Regional Workshops are as follows:

1-1.5 hour workshop - *$40*
2-3 hour workshop - *$75*
Full day workshop - *$100*

The Model Schools Team can be reached at:
email mspd@esboces.org *-or-*
phone 631-288-9568

Regional Workshops by Date:

DATE	TIME	TITLE	Format
10/21/2025	8:00am-11:00am	Holiday Tradition in Action: A Complete Student Project for Elementary Classrooms	In-Person
10/21/2025	3:00pm-4:30pm	Make Storytelling Come Alive with Digital Tools	Virtual
10/28/2025	3:00pm-4:30pm	Journey Without Walls: Exploring the World with Virtual Field Trips	Virtual
10/29/2025	3:30pm-4:30pm	AI Prompt Engineering in Education: Unleashing the Power of AI in your Classroom	Virtual
11/5/2025	5:00pm-6:30pm	Supercharge Student Success: Unlocking the Power of Microsoft Learning Accelerators	Virtual
11/6/2025	3:00pm-4:00pm	Flocabulary Hidden Gems: Flow Deeper	Virtual
11/13/2025	3:00pm-4:00pm	Canva! Video Tools & Ideas	Virtual
11/14/2025	9:00am-10:00am	AI for Educators & Administrators: Practical Applications and Future Trends- *Empowering Instruction: AI for Differentiated Learning and Assessment* Session 2	Virtual
11/17/2025	8:30am-11:30am	Exploring Creativity & Learning with Makey Makey: Unleash Inventive Minds	In-Person
11/17/2025	12:30pm-2:00pm	Indi Cars-Coding through Movement	In-Person
12/8/2025	8:30am-11:30am	Code, Create, and Innovate: Introducing Spheros and Ozobots into your Classroom	In-Person
1/5/2026	Asynchronous	Explore Mathematical Concepts with GeoGebra *4 Week workshop*	Virtual
1/7/2026	3:30pm-4:30pm	Support the Science of Reading with Nearpod for the Elementary Classroom (K-6)	Virtual
1/8/2026	3:00pm-4:30pm	AI for Special Education: Enhancing Instruction and Student Support	Virtual
1/21/2026	9:00am-10:00am	AI for Educators & Administrators: Practical Applications and Future Trends- *The Future-Ready Educator: AI Literacy and Emerging Technologies* Session 3	Virtual
1/26/2026	3:00pm-4:30pm	Empowering Your Learners with Accessibility Tools	Virtual
1/29/2026	3:00pm-4:00pm	Flocabulary Hidden Gems: Flow Deeper	Virtual
2/11/2025	3:00pm-4:00pm	Curriculum Meets Creativity: Canva Projects for K-12 Teachers	Virtual
3/3/2026	9:00am-3:00pm	Layer by Layer: Building Learning in 3D *(Spring Session)*	In-Person
3/11/2026	3:00pm-4:00pm	Unlocking Google AI for Educators: A Two-Part Workshop *(Spring Session)*	Virtual

4/21/2026	**3:30pm-4:30pm**	**Project Based Learning: Exploring the World through Augmented Reality**	**In-Person**
4/30/2026	**8:30am-11:30am**	**Code, Create, and Innovate: Introducing Spheros and Ozobots into your Classroom**	**In-Person**
4/30/2026	**3:00pm-4:00pm**	**Discover the World of Mapping with ArcGIS**	**Virtual**

DESCRIPTIONS

In Alphabetical Order

AI for Educators & Administrators: Practical Applications and Future Trends *(Session 2)*
Empowering Instruction: AI for Differentiated Learning and Assessment

Date: November 14, 2025
Time: 9:00 am – 10:00 am (Virtual)
Instructor: Nikki Frink-Martin
CTLE Hours: 1 – Pedagogy
Part 2 of a three-part miniseries is designed for educators and administrators of all AI experience levels, from beginners to those looking to deepen their understanding. Each one-hour session will provide practical insights and strategies for leveraging artificial intelligence in educational settings, focusing on current trends and real-world applications without requiring prior technical expertise.

AI for Educators & Administrators: Practical Applications and Future Trends *(Session 3)*
The Future-Ready Educator: AI Literacy and Emerging Technologies

Date: January 21, 2026
Time: 9:00 am – 10:00 am (Virtual)
Instructor: Nikki Frink-Martin
CTLE Hours: 1 – Pedagogy
Part 3 of a three-part miniseries is designed for educators and administrators of all AI experience levels, from beginners to those looking to deepen their understanding. Each one-hour session will provide practical insights and strategies for leveraging artificial intelligence in educational settings, focusing on current trends and real-world applications without requiring prior technical expertise.

AI for Special Education: Enhancing Instruction and Student Support

Date: January 8, 2026
Time: 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm (Virtual)
Instructor: Carrie McGuire
CTLE Hours: 1.5 – Pedagogy
In this session, educators will explore how AI tools can support special education teachers and make their work easier. Learn how to use AI to create differentiated lessons, support executive functioning, and personalize instruction for students with diverse needs. The session will include real examples, hands-on practice, and tips for using AI ethically and effectively. Perfect for educators looking to save time and better support their students.

AI Prompt Engineering in Education: Unleashing the Power of AI in Your Classroom

Date: October 29, 2025
Time: 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm (Virtual)
Instructor: Jennifer Sauter
CTLE Hours: 1 – Pedagogy/Content
In an era where artificial intelligence is rapidly transforming industries, education is no exception. This dynamic 60-minute workshop introduces educators to the foundational principles of AI prompt engineering, empowering them to effectively leverage AI tools to enhance teaching and learning. Participants will learn how to craft clear, specific, and effective prompts to generate high-quality, relevant content for lesson planning, differentiation, assessment, and creative classroom activities. Using practical examples spanning English Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies/History, and Science, teachers will discover how AI can become a powerful assistant in their daily practice, saving time and fostering innovative pedagogical approaches. Join us to unlock the potential of AI and become a master of its intelligent capabilities.

Canva! Video Tools & Ideas

Date: November 13, 2025
Time: 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm (Virtual)
Instructor: Mara Healy
CTLE Hours: 1 – Pedagogy
Looking for ways for students to create a book trailer, cooking show, or practice their foreign language speaking skills? Canva Videos makes it possible! Teachers can pre-record lessons, provide instructions, or even show off their karaoke skills, while students can turn reading, writing, and following directions into dazzling cinematic experiences. Join this session to explore creative ideas, learn about editing tools, and discover how you and your students can produce visually engaging video projects.

Code, Create, and Innovate: Introducing Spheros and Ozobots Into Your Classroom

Date: December 8, 2025
Time: 8:30am – 11:30am (In-Person)
Instructor: Kellie Doller
CTLE Hours: 3 – Pedagogy
This hands-on, interactive workshop is designed to equip teachers with the practical skills and confidence to integrate coding and robotics into their curriculum using Sphero and Ozobot robots. By the end of this session, teachers will be prepared and excited to introduce robotics and coding to their students, transforming the classroom into a dynamic, tech-infused learning environment. ***Please bring a laptop****

Code, Create, and Innovate: Introducing Spheros and Ozobots Into Your Classroom

Date: April 30, 2026
Time: 8:30am – 11:30am (In-Person)
Instructor: Kellie Doller
CTLE Hours: 3 – Pedagogy
This hands-on, interactive workshop is designed to equip teachers with the practical skills and confidence to integrate coding and robotics into their curriculum using Sphero and Ozobot robots. By the end of this session, teachers will be prepared and excited to introduce robotics and coding to their students, transforming the classroom into a dynamic, tech-infused learning environment. ***Please bring a laptop****

Curriculum Meets Creativity: Canva Projects for K-12 Teachers

Date: February 11, 2026
Time: 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm (Virtual)
Instructor: Bill MacIntosh
Hours: 1 – Pedagogy
Bring your lessons to life with Canva for Education! In this hands-on workshop, K–12 teachers will explore how to use Canva to create engaging, standards-aligned projects across all subject areas—including math, ELA, science, and social studies. Learn how to design interactive student tasks, infographics, digital journals, and more using Canva's powerful (and free!) classroom tools. Whether you're new to Canva or looking to expand how you use it in the classroom, you'll leave with ready-to-use templates, creative project ideas for any grade level, and the confidence to bring visual learning into your curriculum.

Discover the World of Mapping with ArcGIS

Date: April 30, 2026
Time: 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm (Virtual)
Instructor: Debbie Gerken
Hours: 1 – Pedagogy
ArcGIS is a premier mapping system that is free for district use all across the country. ArcGIS (Geographic Information System) is a suite of software that is maintained by its parent company ESRI (the Environmental Systems Research Institute). ArcGIS is able to combine layers of map data to inform decisions thereby creating solutions based on reliable information. ESRI provides an array of ready to use "Geo Projects" to help get you started on a path to discovery. If your district has an ArcGIS "organization" and you wish to learn more about the educational value of this resource, consider enrolling in this workshop.

Empowering Your Learners with Accessibility Tools

Date: January 26, 2026
Time: 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm (Virtual)
Instructor: Kristina Lomando
CTLE Hours: 1.5 – Pedagogy
Students can personalize their workspace to better support their learning, especially those with reading, writing, attention, or physical challenges. This session will explore a range of accessibility tools, including Text-to-Speech for reading support, Speech-to-Text for writing assistance, text magnification, translation, and organizational tools such as timers, planners, and note-taking apps. Educators will learn practical ways to integrate these tools to support all learners.

Explore Mathematical Concepts with GeoGebra

Date: January 5, 2026
Time: Asynchronous (Virtual – *4 week course*)
Instructor: Bill MacIntosh
CTLE Hours: 4 – Pedagogy/Content

Use GeoGebra with your students for various mathematics topics ranging from elementary levels through middle school, high school, and college levels. Geogebra is a FREE, interactive tool with a wealth of preset activities and lessons that teachers and students can use to explore and visualize a variety of concepts including: Fractions, Arithmetic, Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry, Calculus, and much more! Join us for this three-week asynchronous course as we explore the many applications of this versatile tool! Check for new materials every Monday and complete the activities at your convenience during the week or weekend.
Note: The class consists of videos and other activities/materials to be completed at the participant's own pace over a 3-4 week period. Participants should complete activities on a weekly basis. New activities will be provided on Monday mornings during the course. The instructor will be available to respond to questions and provide feedback throughout the course via either email or a learning management system.

The tentative schedule is as follows:
Week 1: Basics of GeoGebra Including: Sign in, Find Pre-made Resources, Save, Organize, customize (or copy and modify - more in upcoming weeks), Use as a Demonstration Tool and Share with Students as an exploration tool (with GeoGebra Classroom and if applicable, Google Classroom).
Week 2: GeoGebra Math Practice Tool, Introduction to the Graphing Calculator, Exploration of the other types of Calculators available with tips on which to choose, classroom examples of exercises using the Calculators, and Part 1 of exercises to learn how to use the calculator to prepare your own activities
Week 3: Part 2 of exercises to learn how to use the calculators and to create your own GeoGebra Activities and GeoGebra Books
Week 4: Feedback, answers to Questions, and resources for further exploration

Exploring Creativity and Learning with Makey Makey: Unleash Inventive Minds

Date: November 17, 2025
Time: 8:30 am – 11:30 am (In-Persona @Sequoya)
Instructor: Carrie McGuire
CTLE Hours: 3 – Pedagogy

Join us for an exciting, hands-on workshop that brings innovation, creativity, and technology into the classroom through the captivating world of Makey Makey. This interactive workshop is designed to empower educators with the skills, knowledge, and confidence to seamlessly integrate Makey Makey into various subjects, sparking curiosity and fostering critical thinking in students.
***** Please bring a laptop or Chromebook with USB port/adapter to use for this workshop. *****

Flocabulary Hidden Gems: Flow Deeper

Date: November 6, 2025
Time: 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm (Virtual)
Instructor: Tikera Phillips-Witter
CTLE Hours: 1 - Pedagogy
Join me for a fast-paced, 60-minute dive into Flocabulary's most underused—but powerful—features, from Week in Rap to test prep tools and beyond. Led by an educator for educators, this session focuses on unlocking hidden gems that engage students and enrich instruction. Bring your Flocab account, a laptop or desktop, and your growth mindset—we will learn, share, and sharpen each other's skills. In just one hour, we'll groove through ideas, growth strategies, and a few "aha!" moments.

Flocabulary Hidden Gems: Flow Deeper

Date: January 29, 2026
Time: 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm (Virtual)
Instructor: Tikera Phillips-Witter
CTLE Hours: 1 - Pedagogy
Join me for a fast-paced, 60-minute dive into Flocabulary's most underused—but powerful—features, from Week in Rap to test prep tools and beyond. Led by an educator for educators, this session focuses on unlocking hidden gems that engage students and enrich instruction. Bring your Flocab account, a laptop or desktop, and your growth mindset—we will learn, share, and sharpen each other's skills. In just one hour, we'll groove through ideas, growth strategies, and a few "aha!" moments.

Holiday Traditions in Action: A Complete Student Project for Elementary Classrooms

Date: October 21, 2025
Time: 8:00 am – 11:00 am (In-person at ISC @Sequoya)
Instructor: Kristina Lomando
CTLE Hours: 3 – Pedagogy
Celebrating student stories, you will guide students through the process of writing, illustrating, and publishing their own story of a holiday tradition. Students will be able to share and present these stories to their classmates and even families during a holiday celebration. Print the books for a great holiday gift for families!

Indi Cars – Coding through Movement

Date: November 17, 2025
Time: 12:30 pm – 2:00 pm (In-Person @Sequoya)
Instructor: Mara Healy
CTLE Hours: 1.5 – Pedagogy
Join us for an exciting, hands-on workshop where we explore Indi Cars! A physical tool that promotes computational thinking, collaboration, and problem-solving skills in even the youngest learners. The Sphero Indi Car transforms abstract coding concepts into concrete, playful experiences that engage young minds while building the problem-solving skills they'll need for future success in our increasingly digital world.
***** Please bring a laptop to use for this workshop. *****

Journey Without Walls: Exploring the World with Virtual Field Trips

Date: October 28, 2025
Time: 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm (Virtual)
Instructor: Amy Schildwachter
CTLE Hours: 1.5 – Pedagogy
Discover the power of Virtual Field Trips! Learn how to use images, videos, simulations, live broadcasts, and other interactive tools to take your students anywhere—without leaving the classroom. In this workshop, we will explore a variety of technology tools and providers that make virtual field trips possible, while also discussing best practices for maximizing student engagement. Leave with ready-to-use ideas and tips to make virtual adventures a regular, exciting part of your teaching. Open up the world to your students!

Layer by Layer: Building Learning in 3D *(Spring Session)*

Date: March 3, 2026
Time: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm *Lunch break will be on your own* (In-person at ISC @Sequoya)
Instructor: Norma LaFata
CTLE Hours: 5 – Pedagogy/Content
Ever wonder how 3D printing can support your curriculum? Whether it be by creating an animal cell, character artifacts, or even an architectural structure, students can demonstrate their understanding of concepts while applying real world skills to take them beyond what they thought was possible. This in-person workshop will cover designing models with Tinkercad, using slicing software to prepare a model for printing, and tips for achieving great prints. Participants will also learn how to create classes in Tinkercad to monitor student work and explore ideas for integrating 3D printing into their curriculum.
***** Please bring a laptop to use for this workshop. *****

Make Storytelling Come Alive with Digital Tools

Date: October 21, 2025
Time: 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm (Virtual)
Instructor: Amy Schildwachter
CTLE Hours: 1.5 – Pedagogy
In this workshop, we will explore what digital storytelling is and how creating digital stories can be used for fiction and non-fiction topics to assist in building language and writing skills while keeping students more engaged. Participants will be exposed to multiple tools for creating digital stories, including Canva, Google Slides, and PowerPoint.

Project Based Learning: Exploring the World through Augmented Reality

Date: April 21, 2026
Time: 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm (Virtual)
Instructor: Debbie Gerken
CTLE Hours: 1 – Pedagogy
Augmented Reality (AR) is a technology that overlays digital information on to the real world, enhancing the users' perception of their surroundings. Unlike virtual reality, which creates a completely simulated environment, AR integrates digital elements into the existing world. Using iPad technology, learn how your students can construct their own 3D compositions with the application "Reality Composer." All elements offered through the applications library are customizable, and students can also add their own original assets. Projects can be further enhanced by adding animations and sounds that can be triggered by taps. This workshop is intended to introduce teachers to various ways that technology can be used to support project-based learning.

Supercharge Student Success: Unlocking the Power of Microsoft Learning Accelerators

Date: November 5, 2025
Time: 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm (Virtual)
Instructor: Christina Fordham
CTLE Hours: 1.5 – Pedagogy
Discover how Microsoft Learning Accelerators can enhance teaching and learning in just one hour. This interactive session introduces AI-powered tools like Reading Progress, Reading Coach, Search Coach, Math Coach, and Reflect—designed to support personalized learning, provide real-time feedback, and promote student growth. You'll learn practical ways to use these tools to boost engagement, simplify assessment, and help students take ownership of their learning. Perfect for busy educators, this workshop offers ready-to-use strategies and resources for any K–12 classroom.
***** Please note: An Office 365 educator account is needed for the hands-on portion, but not needed if just coming to learn more about these AI powered tools. *****

Support the Science of Reading with Nearpod for the Elementary Classroom (K-6)

Date: January 7, 2026
Time: 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm (Virtual)
Instructor: Jennifer Sauter
CTLE Hours: 1 – Pedagogy/Content
Discover how to use Nearpod to build background knowledge and vocabulary to support the Science of Reading. In this session, participants will explore tools and insights to support literacy development with their students. They will learn to combine Nearpod media and activities to build background knowledge, create multiple ways to support reading comprehension improvement, and utilize engagement features to develop academic vocabulary.

Unlocking Google AI for Educators: A Two-Part Workshop Series *(Spring Session)*

Date: March 11, 2026 & March 24, 2026
Time: 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm (Virtual)
Instructor: Mia LaFata
CTLE Hours: 2 – Pedagogy

This professional development series is designed for educators to move beyond basic generative AI and integrate powerful tools to enhance their teaching. During the two hands-on sessions, participants will focus on transforming your workflow, from creating personalized curriculum to fostering student-led inquiry.

Part 1 ***(March 11, 2026)*** - This session will focus on how educators can use Gemini as a versatile assistant. It covers practical applications such as drafting lesson plans, differentiating instruction, creating assessments, and streamlining administrative tasks to save time.

Part 2 ***(March 24, 2026)*** - This session focuses on NotebookLM, showing how teachers can use it to create a curated learning environment. This part will show how students can act as researchers and critical thinkers by interacting with trusted sources, generating summaries, and using the tool for inquiry-based learning.

***** Please Note: You must attend both workshops. ******

Register now by scanning the QR code

-or-

Click **2025-2026 MODEL SCHOOLS REGIONAL WORKSHOP OFFERINGS**

*For **Content questions**, please contact*
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*For **Registration questions**, please contact the Model Schools Department*
*at **MSPD@esboces.org** or (631) 288-9568*

CTLE Requirements

ESBOCES is an approved CTLE sponsor for the New York State Education Department. Acceptable CTLE shall be study in the content area of any certificate title held by the individual or in pedagogy and include any required study in language acquisition addressing the needs of English language learners as described in **section 80-6.3 of Commissioner's Regulations**. (Content, Pedagogy, ELL) ***Workshops that do not meet the above requirements will not offer CTLE hours.***

Ed Law 2-D

It is the responsibility of the workshop attendee to verify if the license they are using is Ed Law 2-D compliant.
Compliance is determined by the contract or agreement used to procure the license, not the product itself.

Eastern Suffolk BOCES does not discriminate against any employee, student, applicant for employment, or candidate for enrollment on the basis of sex, gender, race, color, religion or creed, age, weight, national origin, marital status, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, transgender status, military or veteran status, domestic violence victim status, genetic predisposition or carrier status, or any other classification protected by Federal, State, or local law. ESBOCES also provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Inquiries regarding the implementation of the applicable laws should be directed to either of the ESBOCES Civil Rights Compliance Officers at ComplianceOfficers@esboces.org: the Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, 631-687-3029, or the Associate Superintendent for Educational Services, 631-687-3056, 201 Sunrise Highway, Patchogue, NY 11772. Inquiries may also be addressed to the Office for Civil Rights at the US Department of Education, 32 Old Slip, 26th Floor, New York, NY 10005, 646-428-3800, OCR.NewYork@ed.gov.