

| Fall Professional Development Catalog 2016 | WSTC |
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| <p>Below are the Fall Professional Development offerings from the West Seneca Teachers' Center. Each course description also notes appropriate course information. Please direct questions to wstc@wscschools.org.</p> | <p>To enroll, please email wstc@wscschools.org</p> |
| <p>Face to Face in the Workplace (partnering with Kids Escaping Drugs) This course is designed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Educate our staff on the prevalence and harmful effects of alcohol and drug experimentation, use and dependence among adolescents Provide resources for substance abuse prevention, treatment and recovery. <p>Participants will discuss the impact of a parent or loved one's addiction has on our students and how we can recognize and support their struggles.</p> | <p>2 ARO hours for all educators</p> <p>Aimee Smart and Jessica Hutchins</p> <p>December 13 West Middle Library 4:30 to 6:30</p> |
| <p>Case Conferencing and Collaboration Join us for an evening of confidential facilitated discussion regarding a challenging classroom situation, motivating a reluctant learner, working with disengaged family or anything else that is troubling you. Together we will use our collective brain to problem solve, discuss interventions, and work to achieve solutions.</p> | <p>2 ARO hours for all educators</p> <p>Aimee Smart</p> <p>December 7 West Middle Library 5:00 to 7:00</p> |
| <p>Sensory Processing Disorder Does your child/student seem unsteady, uncoordinated and sensitive to sounds and touch? Is a challenging behavior a choice or a simple reaction to what is happening around him/her? Participants will gain an understanding of how the senses work and ways to improve their functions.</p> | <p>2 ARO hours for all educators</p> <p>Parent Network of WNY</p> <p>November 14 West Elementary Room 100 5:00 to 7:00</p> |
| <p>Holiday Behavior and Anxiety Holidays can be challenging for everyone. Especially for some individuals with disabilities and their families. This workshop will give you strategies to help reduce stress and anxiety, and help make your Holidays more enjoyable.</p> | <p>2 ARO hours for all educators</p> <p>Parent Network of WNY</p> <p>December 7 West Elementary Room 100 5:00 to 7:00</p> |

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| <p>41 Things to Know About Autism (Book Study) This course will give participants an overview of autism which will make them aware of the diagnostic process, co-morbidities associated with the autism spectrum, educational needs, emotional needs, social needs, Family needs and concerns, Safety concerns, and vocational concerns for people on the autism spectrum. We will address the following: What is Autism? What co-morbidities are common? What are the diagnostic criteria? What are the treatments? What can we do to help with their education? What can we do to help their families? What can we do to keep them safe? How can we teach them self-advocacy, self-esteem, and how to make friends? How does puberty affect those on the autism spectrum? What hope is there for their future? A number of books are available for loan. Please contact the Teachers' Center.</p> | <p>9 ARO hours for all educators (6 hours face-to-face and 3 hours of independent work)</p> <p>Deanna Newberry</p> <p>October 17 and 24 East Middle Room 130 4:30 to 7:30</p> |
| <p>Stepping Up to The Plate: Helping Teachers Learn to Value Themselves as Experts and Leaders Over the past 5 years, education has been seen as something that needs to be "fixed" and everyone seems to have the ability to do it. What has constantly been overlooked is the voice of the teachers themselves. How can teachers find that voice and how it can be mobilized to inform the profession; especially in areas that really matter, such as student learning? This course will utilize research, articles, and class discussion to explore what teacher expertise means for students and school communities themselves. In addition we will explore and discuss ways teachers can find a wealth of opportunities to extend their influence beyond their own classrooms to their teaching teams, schools, and districts; how it could shape the profession.</p> | <p>6 ARO hours for all educators (4 hours face-to-face and 2 of independent work)</p> <p>Lori Mancuso</p> <p>December 1 and 8 West Middle Room 705 4:30 to 6:30</p> |
| <p>Student Mindset and Motivation Tired of seeing blank student faces staring back at you? Wish you could get them to see the value in what they are learning? This hands-on workshop will discuss practical activities you can contour to your own classroom to get your students into a growth mindset. Different strategies and methods will help increase engagement and enjoyment for you students...and you!</p> | <p>3 ARO hours for all educators</p> <p>Jessica Hunger</p> <p>December 8 West Middle Room 704 4:30 to 7:30</p> |
| <p>Changing Your Way of Thinking Sometimes changing the way you look at a situation can provide better insight or clarity. This course will examine the three types of thinking that impact instruction (descriptive, analytical, and reflective) and how these align to student engagement and achievement. Participants will gain insight into the national board certification process with no obligation to become a candidate.</p> | <p>3 ARO hours for all educators</p> <p>Jessica Hunger</p> <p>November 17 West Middle Room 704 4:30 to 7:30</p> |
| <p>Reviewing the New NYS Standards/Public Comments The New York State Education Department (NYSED) released a new draft P-12 English Language Arts and Mathematics Learning Standards for public comment. The new draft standards build upon the feedback the state has received over the past year from parents, teachers, and the public about the state's learning standards and assessments. This course is designed to allow participants time to review the draft standards, to answer NYSED questionnaires, and to offer public comments. NYSED is accepting public comments from now until November 4th.</p> | <p>3 ARO hours for all educators</p> <p>Kristen Frawley</p> <p>October 24 West Elementary Room 100 4:30 to 7:30</p> |

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| <p>Finding Kind - Movie Viewing and Discussion</p> <p>This course is a viewing of the film <i>Finding Kind</i> and a discussion of bullying issues girls face.</p> <p>About <i>Finding Kind</i> -- "Two young women packed their bags and traveled across America in a mini-van with their mothers to interview hundreds of females about the "mean girl" phenomenon. As Lauren and Molly combine their experiences and passion to uncover the harsh reality within Girl World, the girls learn about themselves, females, the truth behind the issue and our cultures influence. The journey is packed with hysterical moments as the girls attempt to conquer the road and everything America has to offer. While there are plenty of fun moments, their emotional roller coaster around the country reveals raw and personal stories from girls that will shock you to your core. With the goal of establishing a national school program for girls, Lauren and Molly hope to put an end to the hate and FIND KIND."</p> <p>For the November 16 screening, teachers are welcome to bring their own children for the discussion and movie viewing.</p> | <p>3 ARO hours for all educators Aimee Smart and Katie Kubiak</p> <p>November 16 West Middle Auditorium (District students and parents will be in attendance) 6:00 to 9:00</p> <p>Or</p> <p>November 29 West Elementary Board Room (Educators only) 4:30 to 7:30</p> |
| <p>Teaching Tolerance</p> <p>The Teaching Tolerance website (http://www.tolerance.org/) provides educational materials—from articles that make you think to presentations you can share. These resources are designed to help teachers improve their practice and turn K-12 schools into strong communities that welcome diversity, giving all students an opportunity to learn. Participants will have an opportunity to explore and preview some of the online reasons including videos, lesson plans, websites, etc.</p> | <p>3 ARO hours for all educators Kristen Frawley</p> <p>DATE TBD West Elementary Room 100 4:30 to 7:30</p> |
| <p>Teacher Wars by Dana Goldstein Book Study</p> <p><i>Teacher Wars</i> gives a substantive account of the history of how teachers in the US have been supported, demonized, and/or idealized over several centuries. In so doing, she also keeps the students in the classroom in focus. These two strategies make her book compulsive reading, especially for people who know only the very recent history of the teaching profession in the last decade or two.</p> <p>A limited number of books are available for loan. Please contact the Teachers' Center.</p> | <p>9 ARO hours for all educators (3 hours face-to-face and 6 hours of independent work) Kristen Frawley</p> <p>November 29 and December 19 West Elementary Room 100 4:30 to 6:00</p> |
| <p>EdCamp -- Organic Professional Development</p> <p>Edcamp is a professional development opportunity for all stakeholders in the field of learning. Following the "unconference" model, Edcamp allows participants to drive the focus for the workshops and breakouts that occur during the day's schedule. In this way, Edcamp becomes more a series of round-table discussions on pertinent topics of interest. While the schedule for Edcamp is firm, the content is fluid: ideas for discussion are proposed by camp attendees as they arrive, are aggregated by any number of means, and filtered by foot traffic. Sessions and breakouts are governed by the "law of two feet," with attendees encouraged to find the experience that most interests them, even if that means moving on before the time is up. Bring a friend, a notebook, and an open mind. Check out this website for more info -- http://www.edcampbuffalo.org/</p> | <p>6 ARO hours for all educators</p> <p>EdCamp Buffalo Foundation</p> <p>November 5 Canisius College--Science Hall 9:00 to 3:00</p> |

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| <p>Reducing Stress and Increasing Effectiveness and Joy in Teaching Through Solution-Focused Strategies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Would you like to be empowered to live happier, healthier, more productive, and have greater career satisfaction and success through an awareness and understanding of stress as it relates to your life and work environment? ▪ Would you like to uncover your personal vulnerabilities and tendencies toward stress and learn practical and effective strategies for dealing with stressful situations? ▪ Would you like to re-gain a sense of joy, purpose and passion in your profession? <p>In this educational and motivational 2-part series, participants will learn about stress, the various types, their personal vulnerabilities, triggers, and tolerance point, and develop a personalized plan to move forward with more confidence, job satisfaction and success.</p> | <p>6 ARO hours for all educators</p> <p>Suzanne Bracci</p> <p>October 19 and 26 West Elementary Room 100 4:30 to 7:30</p> |
| <p>Can't I Just Buy a Friend?</p> <p>This class will focus on social skill integration, enhancing the learning environment and understanding student behavior to enhance the learning process. It will give teachers an insight on social skill development and an understanding on why their students act a certain way and why student behavior fluctuates so greatly both inside and outside of the classroom. Teachers will become more confident in understanding student interaction and utilizing peer mentoring in the classroom.</p> | <p>3 ARO hours for all educators</p> <p>Mark Aquino</p> <p>December 1 West Elementary Room 100 4:30 to 7:30</p> |
| <p>The Differences in Differences</p> <p>This workshop is intended to give participants an understanding of learning disabilities through hands-on activities to enhance and learn strategies to better engage and educate students who struggle with academics.</p> | <p>3 ARO hours for all educators</p> <p>Mark Aquino</p> <p>December 8 West Elementary Room 100 4:30 to 7:30</p> |
| <p>Classroom Management and Differentiated Instruction</p> <p>Course participants will learn how to create a classroom environment – physical, emotional, and academic – that support differentiated instruction. They will learn how to design curriculum based upon higher order thinking skills that are inquiry based, research oriented, rigorous, relevant and real-world. Teachers will explore how to differentiate the process, content and product using authentic assessments in a variety of formats. Participants will leave with a specific plan of action for the classroom and a set of management tools to implement immediately.</p> | <p>3 ARO hours for all educators</p> <p>Mark Aquino</p> <p>November 3 West Elementary Room 100 4:30 to 7:30</p> |
| <p>Take a Picture: Using Picture Books to Develop Lessons</p> <p>Want to expand a lesson? Want to create a new mini lesson? Using picture books are a great way to connect and develop new learning. In this class, we will review and discuss a variety of picture books that connect personification, idioms, theme, genre, and more. Students will leave with a series of booklists that offer new ways to teach units. This class is geared toward K-6 classroom and special area teachers.</p> | <p>3 ARO hours for all educators</p> <p>Haley Warren</p> <p>October 19 West Elementary Library 4:30 to 7:30</p> |

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| <p>Quick Assessments in the Classroom Want to know what your students know more quickly and with less grading? This course will focus on building a toolbox of assessment strategies that are time-friendly. We will discuss how maximizing the first few minutes at the start or end of class can save time and help you plan to address student academic needs.</p> | <p>3 ARO hours for all educators</p> <p>Rachel Wysocki Kent</p> <p>December 6 West Elementary Room 100 4:30 to 7:30</p> |
| <p>Presentation Skills and Public Speaking This workshop will provide you with simple, concrete, practical strategies for incorporating public speaking, presentation and debate skills students will need both in school and beyond—without sacrificing the time you need to get through your curriculum. Learn how impromptu and planned public speaking and presentations can turn even the most nervous public speaker into a confident presenter.</p> | <p>3 ARO hours for all educators</p> <p>Rachel Wysocki Kent</p> <p>December 13 West Elementary Room 100 4:30 to 7:30</p> |
| <p>Vocabulary Strategies (individualized lists, tips, research, etc.) Participants will explore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The differences between receptive and expressive vocabulary ▪ Methods to choose the best words for your specific purpose ▪ How to stop assaulting your students with vocabulary lists ▪ Ways to use visual aids ▪ Steps to integrate vocabulary instruction ▪ How to use tiered lists to narrow down vocabulary ▪ Ideas to create personalized word study ▪ Methods to track progress and assess vocabulary acquisition ▪ Strategies to handle domain-specific vocabulary <p>Check out Amber Chandler’s website for more information: http://www.doyoudifferentiate.com/ Mrs. Chandler is the author of <i>The Flexible ELA Classroom: Practical Tools for Differentiated Instructions in Grades 4- 8</i>.</p> | <p>3 ARO hours for all educators</p> <p>Amber Chandler</p> <p>Date TBD West Elementary Room 112 4:30 to 7:30</p> |

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| <p>Project Based Learning (planning for, differentiation with, SpEd, ENLs, CCLS)</p> <p>Participants will explore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Project Based Learning, Problem Based Learning, and Passion Based Learning ▪ Help your students find their BAM ▪ Embrace the “we’ll figure it out” attitude ▪ Trust the process of immersion ▪ Develop scaffolding ▪ Manage time ▪ Create a behavior management plan ▪ Design organic mini-lessons ▪ Examine types of presentations ▪ Watch the learning environment change while trying out PBL <p>Check out Amber Chandler’s website for more information: http://www.doyoudifferentiate.com/ Mrs. Chandler is the author of <i>The Flexible ELA Classroom: Practical Tools for Differentiated Instructions in Grades 4- 8</i></p> | <p>3 ARO hours for all educators</p> <p>Amber Chandler</p> <p>November 9 West Elementary Room 100 4:30 to 7:30</p> |
| <p>DIY: Digital Guided Tours</p> <p>Do you enjoy exploring historical sites, museums, and walking tours on your free time? Ever wondered how you can bring those experiences to your students who just can’t manage to visit those places themselves? In this workshop we will take you to a local historic site, guide you through collecting the materials you will need, and then guide you through the crafting of your own Digital Guided Tour so that you can help your students experience local history as you have.</p> <p>Check out http://www.dighistoryconsulting.com/</p> | <p>3 ARO hours for all educators</p> <p>Averil Earls and Sarah Handley-Cousins</p> <p>November 9 West Elementary Library 4:00 to 7:00</p> |
| <p>History Scavenger Hunts</p> <p>Are you teaching a unit on a topic that has a strong local connection, or maybe looking for a hands-on, family-centered activity to assign your students? A fun and awesome option is a history scavenger hunt, where students and their friends and family members explore the region, checking in and gathering information at each location. In this workshop, we’ll talk about potential places and topics for local scavenger hunts, such as the War of 1812, the PanAmerican Exposition, the Erie Canal, or Iroquois history. We’ll also cover how to design a scavenger hunt, methods for having students check in, learn more information when they arrive, and projects for assessment.</p> | <p>3 ARO hours for all educators</p> <p>Averil Earls and Sarah Handley-Cousins</p> <p>October 26 West Elementary Library 4:00 to 7:00</p> |
| <p>Exhibit Curation</p> <p>In this workshop, participants will use tools to create a digital history exhibit. This can be used to celebrate and preserve your school or organization’s history, highlight the history of your region, or even focus on a specific issue or event to be used as a class project. We can teach you how to collect images, collect audio and video oral histories, create videos, and create a online “museum” using different platforms.</p> | <p>3 ARO hours for all educators</p> <p>Averil Earls and Sarah Handley-Cousins</p> <p>November 17 West Elementary Library 4:00 to 7:00</p> |

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| <p>Readers' Workshop -- K-2 Conferring and Assessment- Using running record data and text complexity knowledge can help teachers teach into the zone of what students need to grow in reading. This session will provide time to create open ended discussion questions to use with students during reading conferences. Grades K-2, please bring your running record or DRA data if you have it.</p> | <p>3 ARO hours for elementary teachers</p> <p>Jeanne Tribuzzi</p> <p>November 1 West Elementary Room 100 4:30 to 7:30</p> |
| <p>Reader's Workshop -- 3-5 Conferring and Assessment- Using performance data and text complexity knowledge can help teachers teach into the zone of what students need to grow in reading. This session will provide time to create open ended discussion questions to use with students during reading conferences. Grades 3-5, please bring your Reading Pathways book and your performance assessment data if you have it.</p> | <p>3 ARO hours for elementary teachers</p> <p>Jeanne Tribuzzi</p> <p>November 21 West Elementary Room 100 4:30 to 7:30</p> |
| <p>Readers' Workshop -- K-5- Small Group Lessons Small Group Work in a Reading Workshop can be planned to be targeted and responsive to what students need. This session will focus on planning and preparing for a variety of small groups in a Reading Workshop. Please bring your Reading Pathways book in 3-5 and your Guide to the Reading Workshop.</p> | <p>3 ARO hours for elementary teachers</p> <p>Jeanne Tribuzzi</p> <p>December 6 West Elementary Room 100 4:30 to 7:30</p> |
| <p>Star Lab Participants will learn how to successfully conduct lessons within Star Lab. These lessons may include topics such as -- Native American mythology, Greek and Roman mythology, the constellations related to these mythologies, moon phases, star charting and navigation.</p> | <p>3 ARO hours for all elementary teachers</p> <p>Cheryl Johnson</p> <p>November 14 West Elementary Board Room 4:30 to 7:30</p> |

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| <p>FX Math Pack</p> <p>Teachers will examine how to use the FX Math Pack tools (www.efofex.com/fxmathpack.php) to better enhance their lessons. Teachers will learn how to incorporate graphs, number lines, tree diagrams, Venn diagrams, and 3D shapes in their documents using this program. Teachers will utilize the following tools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ X Draw - The Original Mathematical Drawing Tool ▪ FX Equation - Astounding Quick Equations ▪ FX Graph - Powerful Graphing made Dead Simple ▪ FX Stat - A Statistical Package Designed for Secondary Schools <p>We have full subscriptions for the middle schools and high schools. "Full Site Subscriptions - all computers on one site of the institution + staff can use the product at home."</p> | <p>3 ARO hours for all middle school and high school math educators</p> <p>Sarah Tanski</p> <p>October 25 West Senior Library 3:00 to 6:00</p> |
| <p>FX Math Pack Follow Up</p> <p>(This course is only available to participants who attended FX Math Pack.)</p> <p>Teachers will expand their current FX Math Pack knowledge and create lessons that incorporate FX Math Pack tools. Teachers will incorporate graphs, number lines, tree diagrams, Venn diagrams, and 3D shapes into their lessons.</p> | <p>3 ARO hours for all middle school and high school math educators</p> <p>Sarah Tanski</p> <p>October 27 West Senior Library 3:00 to 6:00</p> |
| <p>Discovery Education Resources</p> <p>Discovery Education is a subscription based repository of "media" that is indexed and searchable. This course is designed for teachers who would like time to explore these resources which include educational videos. Participants will learn how to access Discovery Education Resources including videos, images, lessons plans, blackline masters. Time will be given to explore these resources in order to plan "media enhanced" lessons.</p> | <p>3 ARO hours for all educators</p> <p>Kristen Frawley</p> <p>December 14 West Elementary Room 100 4:30 to 7:30</p> |
| <p>QR Codes for the Classroom</p> <p>Are you tired of students googling all of their information and finding bad websites? Do you want parents to have better access to online information? Learn about QR codes and how to effectively use them in your instruction for both student and parent involvement. Participants should bring materials to work on to help immediately implement them in their classrooms.</p> | <p>3 ARO hours for all educators</p> <p>Jessica Matthews</p> <p>November 1 East Middle Library 4:15 to 7:15</p> |

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| <p>Websites to Improve Instruction</p> <p>Participants will have the opportunity to learn about ways to add more tools to their tool boxes by using the websites Pinterest and Teachers pay Teachers. Participants will have the opportunity to search for ideas and resources to improve their classroom décor and individual instructional units. Participants should bring an outline of their curriculum to the class. Participants will also be shown how to create and add Vokis to their website.</p> | <p>3 ARO hours for all educators</p> <p>Jessica Matthews</p> <p>November 2 East Middle Library 4:15 to 7:15</p> |
| <p>Tweets and Peeps</p> <p>This class is intended for teachers who are interested in using social media, specifically Twitter, to improve their practice. Participants in this class will create a Twitter account, send out tweets and retweet, follow others, join chats, and start conversations with other. Participants will also explore educational “hash tags” to help them stay current and involved.</p> | <p>3 ARO hours for all educators</p> <p>Rosalia Carraba</p> <p>November 16 East Middle Library 4:30 to 7:30</p> |
| <p>Google Lab A</p> <p>Google and Google Apps for Education -- you have it, but what can you do with it? This workshop is designed to help you do what you need to do to successfully and easily use Google in the classroom. During each session, the group will discuss “best practices” using Google Drive and Google Classroom. Each session will offer teachers a chance to try something new like a Chrome add-on while time will also be given to improve current practices. Attend as many of the two-hour sessions as you can.</p> | <p>2 ARO hours for all educators for each session</p> <p>Lisa Leahy</p> <p>October 18, November 1, November 15, November 29 East Middle Room 201 4:30 to 6:30</p> |
| <p>Google Lab B</p> <p>Google and Google Apps for Education -- you have it, but what can you do with it? This workshop is designed to help you do what you need to do to successfully and easily use Google in the classroom. During each session, the group will discuss “best practices” using Google Drive and Google Classroom. Each session will offer teachers a chance to try something new like a Chrome add-on while time will also be given to improve current practices. Attend as many of the two-hour sessions as you can.</p> | <p>2 ARO hours for all educators for each session</p> <p>Patrick Wirth</p> <p>October 26, November 9, November 30, December 7</p> <p>West Elementary Room 222 4:30 to 6:30</p> |
| <p>Google Drive (Intended for newer users)</p> <p>Google Drive Google Drive is a collaborative platform, meaning that you can use to collaborate with others in real time. This workshop will teach you how to create, edit, manage, and share documents, presentations, and drawings. Some of the features covered will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Share/collaborate with people in WS and elsewhere ● Publish online and get links to embed in a website ● Create documents, add links, images, videos, tables | <p>3 ARO hours for all educators</p> <p>Kristen Frawley</p> <p>November 15 West Elementary Room 100 4:30 to 7:30</p> |

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| <p>Google Drive (Intended for newer users) Google Drive is a collaborative platform, meaning that you can use to collaborate with others in real time. This workshop will teach you how to create, edit, manage, and share documents, presentations, and drawings. Some of the features covered will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Share/collaborate with people in WS and elsewhere ● Publish online and get links to embed in a website ● Create documents, add links, images, videos, tables ● Create presentations, add animations and videos ● Organize your files (sort, star, folders) ● Import files/folders ● Export files/folders | <p>3 ARO hours for all educators</p> <p>Kristen Frawley</p> <p>November 15 West Elementary Room 100 4:30 to 7:30</p> |
| <p>Discovering Your New Teachers' Center Part 1 This course is designed to give participants an overview of how the Teacher Center Program functions in New York State. This course will also provide time for teachers to explore the various equipment and resources available to them at the Center. Time will be given for each participant to create resources that they can use within their classroom instruction. Time will also be given to explore the relocated Teachers' Center.</p> | <p>3 ARO hours for all educators</p> <p>Kristen Frawley</p> <p>January 11 West Elementary Room 100 4:30 to 7:30</p> |
| <p>Discovering Your New Teachers' Center Part 2</p> | <p>3 ARO hours for all educators</p> |

Course sign up or Questions
wstc@wscschools.org
 Kristen Frawley, Director
 West Seneca Teachers' Center