



SOUTHTOWN TEACHERS CENTER

Fall 2026

Course Offerings

STC will continue with a format of Synchronous/Asynchronous courses this year, as well as some face-to-face options. Delivery method will be indicated. To register for a course using a Google Classroom platform, you will need a personal gmail account. They are free and easy to set up.

Session Dates: Fall 2: 9/28-11/9 | Fall 3: 11/16-21 | Winter 4: 1/4-2/11 | Spring 5: Mar 1-15 | Spring 6: TBA

Fine Print

Fees for 2026-2027 school year will be \$20. Payment required prior to course start. Unpaid spots will be released.

Your registration fee will be forfeit for cancellations received less than 5 days from start date. No Shows will be charged the \$20 as well.

Space is limited. We will create a wait list if there is enough interest.

Completion of all work as well as attendance to the synchronous sessions is required to receive full credit. Participants must have video enabled for the duration of synchronous sessions

All courses are CTLE eligible, unless otherwise indicated. Courses that have been pre-approved for pro-growth by Frontier/Hamburg will be noted. You are responsible for any prior approval forms your district requires.

Register online:
southtownteacherscenter.org

REGISTRATION STEPS

Register online on our website

www.southtownteacherscenter.org/course-catalog

If requested, you WILL NEED to provide a **Personal GMAIL Account** to join a Google Classroom. A school/college email WILL NOT WORK.

Submit any prior approval paperwork your district requires.
These are SEPARATE THINGS You must do both!

Watch you school email for a welcome from the instructor
3-7 days before the start. Email us if you don't see this 2 days before.

Certificates will be sent to your building once the Fall Session ends, which may differ from individual course end date.

*Late cancellation/No Shows will be Charged \$20

Courses during the school year will have a \$20 Course Fee

You must attend ALL sessions We are unable to guarantee make-up work -it is up to the discretion of the instructor. Missed meets are often difficult to make up, especially for book study discussions.



NEW** Teaching World Languages with the NEW NYS Standards

Time: 4:15-5:15pm Synchronous Zoom meeting and 7 hours of asynchronous work

Dates: Tuesdays: 10/6, 10/13, 10/20, 10/27 & 11/3

Target Audience: World language Teachers

Category: Instructional Strategies/NYS Teaching Standards

Approvals: Frontier and Hamburg Pro-growth and Tenure Elective

Fee: \$20 **Hours:** 15 Hours

Instructor(s): Karen Waugaman

In this 5 week course we will start with an understanding of the revised NYS Standards and Can-Do statements. We will work through designing proficiency oriented units and lessons using backwards planning. We will work on using authentic documents to build real world proficiency and work on designing assessments aligned with proficiency goals. Finally we will bring all this together by creating a personal action plan!

*"Service to all
who educate."*

southtownteacherscenter.org

Vanessa@
SouthtownTeachersCenter.org



SOUTHTOWN TEACHERS CENTER Course Offerings Fall 2026

Deliberate Optimism Book Study Course

Time: 4:15-5:45pm Synchronous Zoom meetings and asynchronous work

Dates: Synchronous online sessions Mondays, Synchronous meets on 10/5, 10/19, 10/26, 11/2 & 11/9

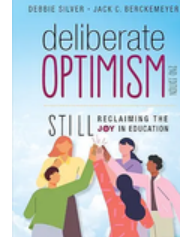
Target Audience: Teachers

Category: Instructional Strategies/Social Emotional/Best Professional Practice

Approvals: Frontier Pro-Growth / Tenure Elective
Hamburg Pro-Growth / Tenure Elective

Fee: \$20. **Hours:** 15 Hours

Instructor(s): Annette Baldwin



Attitude can make all the difference. When educators choose optimism, even in the face of the toughest challenges, they foster a school culture where students and staff feel safe, engaged, and productive, able to enjoy the healthy interactions that lead to real change. This updated edition of the book has a new chapter on mental health, and QR codes leading to additional resources such as self-assessments and videos. Through research based strategies, practical examples, action steps, and thought provoking scenarios, this book provides many discussions and actions we can take now in our lives and classroom. This 15-hour course will leave you inspired and proud to be an educator. This entire workshop will be completed online with 5 synchronous meetings of one hour and asynchronous assignments to be completed between the synchronous meetings .

12 Books will be available for loan upon request at registration. Books not returned in the condition sent will incur a charge of \$30 for replacement. STC is borrowing them from another center for the course. Books sent out before the course begins.

Book Study with the Author: *The Classroom of Choice 100+ Strategies to Reach and Teach Every Learner, 2nd edition: Intrinsic Motivation in the Classroom*

Time: 4:30-7:00pm Synchronous Zoom meeting and 7 hours of asynchronous work

Dates: Wednesdays: Synchronous Sessions on 10/7 & 11/4 Asynchronous assignments in between 1st and last sessions.

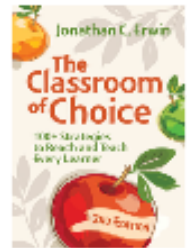
Target Audience: Teachers K-12, Teacher Aides

Category: Instructional Strategies/Differentiation

Approvals: Frontier Pro-Growth / Frontier Tenure Elective | Hamburg Pro-Growth / Hamburg Tenure Elective

Fee: \$20 **Hours:** 15 Hours

Instructor(s): Jon Erwin



In this book with the author, you will gain a compelling rationale for addressing students' intrinsic motivation and learn specific strategies you can use immediately to address the 5 components in intrinsic motivation in the classroom-giving students what they need and getting what you want - a safe, connected, empowered, and joyful learning environment.

Books provided to the first 12 participants.

Google Slides Part 1

Time: 6:00-7:00pm Synchronous Zoom meeting and 7 hours of asynchronous work

Dates: Thursdays, 10/8, 10/15, 10/22, 10/29 & 11/5

Target Audience: Teachers K-12, Aides. Some basic knowledge of Google Drive Apps helpful.

Category: Instructional Strategies, Technology

Approvals: Frontier Pro-Growth | Hamburg Pro-Growth **NOT A TENURE ELECTIVE FOR EITHER DISTRICT**

Fee: \$20 **Hours:** 15 Hours

Instructor(s): Gina O'kussick



Google Slides

In Part 1 of this course, you will learn how to create, manage, format and organize content for any subject area or grade level using Google Slides. You will also become familiar with the process used to add and edit visual objects and apply transitions and animations. These skills will be useful in engaging, sharing and collaborating with students and teachers. Knowledge in Google Slides will promote engagement and achievement among your students. *This is a guided method of instruction and very hands on. Must have a device (computer or Chromebook) that has access to Google Slides. You will need this device for the online session as well. Phone access will not work.*



SOUTHTOWN TEACHERS CENTER Course Offerings

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What Happened To You? Book Study Course

Time: 4:15-5:15pm Synchronous Zoom meetings and asynchronous work

Dates: Synchronous online sessions Thursdays, 10/8, 10/15, 10/22, 10/29 & 11/5

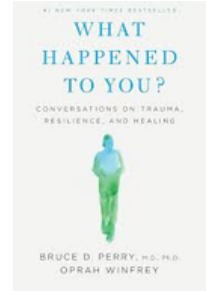
Target Audience: Teachers K-12

Category: Instructional Strategies/Social Emotional

Approvals: Frontier Pro-Growth / Frontier Tenure Elective | Hamburg Pro-Growth / Hamburg Tenure Elective

Fee: \$20 **Hours:** 15 Hours

Instructor(s): Karen Waugaman



Through deeply personal conversations Dr. Bruce Perry and Oprah Winfrey explore how what happens to us in early childhood influences the people we become. They challenge us to shift our thinking from "what is wrong with you?" to "what happened to you?" The focus is not only on a new understanding of people's behavior but also on trauma's effects on our own lives and the lives of our students. It is a subtle but profound shift in our approach to trauma that allows each of us to understand our past so that we may clear a path to our healthy future. It allows us as teachers to help our students work through their trauma.

Participants will develop an understanding that student behavior is not because the child is "bad."; there are direct links between childhood trauma and ADHD (symptoms) and other behavior issues. If we understand the child, we can understand behaviors and work in a trauma informed manner to address issues that hinder learning. Meets SEL Goal Benchmarks: 1a, 1b, c 2a, 2d, 3a & 3b

BOOKS WILL BE PROVIDED TO THE FIRST 12 WHO REQUEST ONE.

Upcoming...So many ways to learn and grow in your practice.

Session 3

Breaking Barriers in the Classroom

The Science of Learning: 99 Studies Every Teacher Needs to Know (Book Study)

What We Say and How We Say it Matter

Google Sheets

Session 4

Brain Breaks: 5 Minute Activities to reset the Brain...

Before you Quite Teaching Book Study

Breaking Barriers in the Classroom

Brain-Based Teaching: Using Neuroscience to Improve Learning Outcomes

AI for Educators

The Successful Paraprofessional

The Science of Learning: 99 Studies Every Teacher Needs to Know (Book Study)

Session 5

Leading and managing a Differentiated Classroom

Mindset: The New Psychology of Success

Deciphering Danielsons Domains

AI for Educators

How to Know a Person by David Brooks Book Study

Designing Innovative Strategies to Create a Culture for Learning

More New Courses Coming -pending approval from the district!

SOUTHTOWN TEACHERS CENTER Course Offerings

Fall 2026

NEW TENURE REQUIRED COURSE THE WAIT IS OVER!

Our two 21st Century courses, “Creating the Learning Environment” and “Understanding Learning” have received an update! We’ve kept the best practices covered in those courses to develop a single course designed to help you create a foundation for learning. **This will now be the required course for tenure in both the Frontier and Hamburg districts, replacing the 21st Century Courses. This will be offered in the Fall and Spring each year.**

Designing Innovative Strategies to Create a Culture for Learning

Time: 4:15-5:45pm Synchronous Zoom meetings and asynchronous work in between

Dates: Tuesdays: 9/29, 10/6, 10/13, 10/20 & 10/27

Target Audience: Teachers, Social Workers, Psychologists K-12 and those seeking teacher tenure

Category: Instructional Strategies

Approvals: Frontier Pro-Growth / Frontier Tenure Required Course | Hamburg Pro-Growth / Hamburg Tenure Required Course

Fee: \$20 **Hours:** 15 Hours

Instructor(s): Laura Glista

Incorporating the Dimensions of Learning research-based model of Instructional Strategies, this course will also address the needs and challenges of today's school environment. Participants will develop teaching tools which will prepare instructor and student alike for the ever-changing world we live in. Strategies taught will be applicable for all subject areas K-12, as well as other school professionals. Both learning environment and current instructional strategies will be cultivated in order to nurture student success.

Deciphering Danielson’s Domains

Time: 4:30-6:30pm Synchronous Zoom meeting and 7 hours of asynchronous work

Dates: Tuesdays: 9/29, 10/6, 10/13, 10/20

Target Audience: Teachers K-12

Category: Instructional Strategies

Approvals: Frontier Pro-Growth / Frontier Tenure Elective | Hamburg Pro-Growth / Hamburg Tenure Elective

Fee: \$20 **Hours:** 15 Hours

Instructor(s): Amber Chandler



This course will be particularly relevant for new teachers and those unfamiliar with Danielson. Charlotte Danielson's domains are on each teacher's mind or should be. Each week participants will learn about one domain with a concentration on strategies and documentation to succeed using Danielson's rubric. This course will help teachers approach standards and embed them into their teaching practices to impact learning. Teachers will have a toolbox of best practices as well as methods for demonstrating their proficiency. All sessions come back to the question, “How do I demonstrate this?”

****NEW Brain Breaks: 5 Minute Activities to Rest the Brain, Re-energize the Classroom, and Reduce Disruptions (Book Study) NOTE 2 SESSIONS OFFERED**

Note this course starts with Asynchronous reading and assignments with 2 Synchronous Zoom meetings

Dates: Synchronous online sessions on **Monday: Slot 1 10/19 and 11/2 from 5:30-8:00pm.** Asynchronous assignments and reading begin Monday 9/28. **Monday Slot 2: 10/26 and Nov 9** Asynchronous Readings begin Oct 5th

Target Audience: Teachers K-12, Admin, Social Workers, Teacher Aides

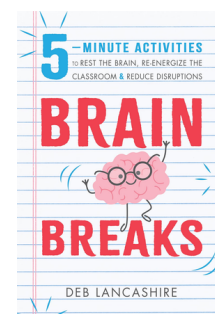
Category: Instructional Strategies/zlearning Environment/ Student Learning Outcomes

Approvals: Frontier Pro-Growth / Frontier Tenure Elective | Hamburg Pro-Growth / Hamburg Tenure Elective

Fee: \$20 **Hours:** 15 Hours

Instructor(s): Dr. Matt Dolegowski

This course explores the use of brain breaks as a strategy to improve student attention, engagement, classroom climate, and learning outcomes through the text "Brain Breaks: 5-Minute Activities to Rest the Brain, Re-energize the Classroom, and Reduce Disruptions." Participants will examine the connection between movement, attention, memory, and student learning while exploring practical classroom strategies that support engagement and reduce disruptions. Through reading, discussion, reflection, and classroom application activities, participants will develop a plan for implementing purposeful brain breaks that support the needs of diverse learners. Emphasis will be placed on creating positive learning environments and integrating brain breaks into instructional practice to enhance student learning and well-being.



BOOKS WILL BE PROVIDED TO THE FIRST 10 WHO REQUEST ONE. Available free if you have Kindle Unlimited