

## The Wednesday Reader

### Rocktober 12, 2016

Please note with the 2016 New CTE Professionals Workshop and the 2016 Montana ACTE Fall Institute take place next week, there will not be a *Wednesday Reader* for October 19, 2016.

### Updated Framework for Business Education in Montana & OPI TEAMS K-12 Course Codes and Descriptions Reference Manual for Business & Marketing Education Available

The [Framework for Business Education in Montana](#) has been updated for the 2016-2017 school year. Within the Framework, updates have been made to the competitive event crosswalks for Business Professionals of America and DECA. The updated crosswalks reflect updates and changes to the competitive event programs at the national level effective for the 2016-2017 school year.

The Framework for Business Education in Montana provides teachers with common guidance for curriculum development and course content development. Review and update work for the Framework for Business Education in Montana was by a committee Montana business education professionals representing all classifications of Montana High School as well as business education teacher program coordinators from the University of Montana and University of Montana Western and the State Directors for Business Professionals of America, Montana Association and Montana DECA.

The course information within the Framework is organized by Career Clusters with the Common Career Technical Core as the standards for each cluster. Additionally, course content is aligned to the *National Standards for Business Education* and is crosswalked to the *National Standards for Business Education* and to the competitive event programs for Business Professionals of America and DECA.

A complete PDF version of the Framework can be downloaded at <https://app.box.com/s/e4vxcib34pb7gkn2ypkqjdwhj37uj5mz> and if you would like to just download the BPA and DECA competitive event crosswalks, they can be downloaded at <https://app.box.com/s/0f3gnfq8msbtutc4fe67drecl6ptxu85>.

Also updated for the 2016-2017 school year is the [OPI TEAMS Current Listing of All Montana K-12 Course Codes and Descriptions Reference Manual for Business & Marketing Education](#). The Montana K-12 Course Codes and Descriptions are used for the reporting of course taught in all schools and at all grade levels via the OPI TEAMS school staffing system. Updates to this year's manual include the removal of duplicated courses to help streamline course identification and the removal of "other" courses and codes. Additionally, this year's manual includes a complete listing of Montana teacher licensure course codes.

Within TEAMS, all courses taught are identified and aligned to a national SCED Code with the local school course title listed as well as term type, enrollment numbers, and length of instruction. For Montana's Career & Technical Education programs, the TEAMS data is also used to generate the Montana CTE Student Participation Reports which are used to determine State CTE/VoEd funding allocations.

If you received an updated copy of the Course Codes during the August Summer Update Workshops, please download the manual above as there have been some corrections made to endorsement listing in certain courses since August.

The [OPI TEAMS Current Listing of All Montana K-12 Course Codes and Descriptions Reference Manual for Business & Marketing Education](#) can be downloaded at <https://app.box.com/s/8ymsldpmr66xrt1rvl73fzf2sg5zky1r>.

Additional information about the Framework for Business Education in Montana and the OPI TEAMS Current Listing of All Montana K-12 Course Codes and Descriptions Reference Manual for Business & Marketing Education will be presented during the [2016 New CTE Professionals Workshop](#) and the [2016 Montana ACTE Fall Institute](#).

If you have problems accessing any of the documents noted above, please contact Business Education Specialist Eric Swenson at [eswenson@mt.gov](mailto:eswenson@mt.gov).

### **Saturday, October 15 is Deadline for Computer Science Small Grant Program for Montana Schools**

The application deadline for the Gianforte School of Computing's Computer Science Small Grant Program for Montana Schools is Saturday, October 15, 2016.

The GSOC's Small Grant Program aims to be responsive to the needs of Montana High Schools. The awards will provide support to educators to enable students to learn computing skills and to expose students to careers in computer science.

Awards are for the 2016-2017 school year and will be in three categories:

1. Program Development - Grants up to \$3000
2. Training - Grants up to \$1000
3. Equipment - Grants up to \$1000

For more details, information and link to the application, please go <http://ou.montana.edu/csoutreach/MT-Small-Grant-Program.html>, You may also contact Sharlyn Izurieta if you have questions at 406.994.4794 , [Sharlyn.Izurieta@montana.edu](mailto:Sharlyn.Izurieta@montana.edu), or [sgizuri@gmail.com](mailto:sgizuri@gmail.com).

### **CTE 2016-2017 Perkins Grant Submission & Approval Reminder for High School Districts**

The CTE Division of the OPI is sending this brief, but friendly, reminder to all districts intending to submit a 2016-2017 Perkins grant application to please obtain final OPI approval of your initial Perkins application through the E-Grants system no later than **Monday, October 31, 2016**.

Only the initial/original application is subject to this deadline. Amendments to your approved Perkins application can occur after the October date. If you have questions regarding the status of your Perkins grant application, please contact one of the following CTE Division staff:

Renee Harris: phone: 406.994.6986; email: [rharris3@mt.gov](mailto:rharris3@mt.gov)  
Christy Hendricks: phone: 406.444.9019; email: [chendricks@mt.gov](mailto:chendricks@mt.gov)

### **Montana Teenpreneur Challenge Update**

The online submission portal is now open for entries at the [Montana Teenpreneur Challenge](#) website until the closing deadline of December 1. The contest seeks to find and reward Montana's most entrepreneurial-minded

high school students. A \$2,500 purse will be awarded to the best ideas for new businesses and to the best existing student-run businesses.

The *Challenge* has been endorsed by Denise Juneau, Superintendent-Office of Public Instruction, and by Meg O'Leary, Director-Department of Commerce. Find their videos at the contest website.

The *Challenge* website was recently updated to include the evaluation criteria, a submission guide, and a modified FAQ. If you previously read the FAQ, you will want to read it again, as changes have been made to the mentoring program.

Learn more about [Montana Teenpreneur Challenge](#) by following the link at [www.OneMontana.org](http://www.OneMontana.org). Questions? Email [Challenge@OneMontana.org](mailto:Challenge@OneMontana.org) for answers.

### **Google Launches New Feature to Make CS EDU Website More Helpful**

To help get this school year off to a good start, Google's computer science education website now allows you to [explore its resources](#), making it easier for students and educators to immediately access information about Google's CS programs and opportunities.

CS education is a pathway to innovation, to creativity and to exciting career opportunities. In April, Google launched a new CS education website for easily and quickly accessing information on its wide range of CS programs, tools, contests, internships, and partner organizations. We have now added new functionality letting you enter what you're looking for and get an automatically curated list of relevant resources.

To start exploring, use the drop down menus to specify role (student, educator, etc.), age range, environment (during school, extracurricular), and region. You'll then see a filtered list of possible programs and tools in descending order based on the extent to which they meet your criteria set.

For all things CS at Google, put [CS EDU](#) to work for you and your students.

### **CSTA NSA Day of Cyber – October 24**

The Computer Science Teachers Association (CSTA) is Celebrating National Cybersecurity Awareness Month and would like to invite you to participate in the CSTA NSA Day of Cyber on October 24.

In an effort to raise the nation's Cyber IQ and inspire a next generation of cyber professionals to fill the hundreds of thousands open jobs in cyber, we hope you will register and run the FREE [NSA Day of Cyber](#) online cybersecurity career awareness experience with your students on or before October 24, 2016.

Preview the Experience Here: <https://lifejourney.wistia.com/medias/11a7gfyewg>.

Register with the CSTA Customized Registration Link to be one of the highlighted schools on the CSTA National NSA Day of Cyber Dashboard:

<https://prod.lifejourney.us/lifeJourney/registrationRequest?programId=2&role=School&oId=82>.

More information about running the experience in the classroom can be found here: [Instructor Resource Guide](#).

## **Online Registration Now Open for the Western Business Education Association 2017 Conference**

The Western Business Education Association's [2017 Conference](#) will be hosted by the Montana Business Education Association and held in Bozeman, February 16-20, 2017, at the Best Western GranTree Inn.

Online registration for the WBEA 2017 Conference can now be completed at <https://bozeman2017.wufoo.com/forms/zxtgf2905hyxuy>. Registration is \$200.00 for NBEA/WBEA members and includes all general and breakout sessions, the Exhibitors' Reception Friday evening, the Saturday afternoon WBEA Luncheon and General Session, and the Awards Dinner and Closing Session on Sunday.

In addition to the breakout and general sessions, you can also register for a variety of hands-on computer workshops, Bozeman-area tours, and be sure to register to attend Saturday night's Montana Special Event to be held at the world famous Museum of Rockies.

One (1) Graduate-level credit will be available from MSU Billings (\$99 payable to MSU Billings) as well as OPI Renewal Units.

Hotel reservations can be made by calling the Best Western GranTree at 406.587.5261 and refer to **Group Code 806427** (Montana Business Education Association). Rooms for the conference are available at the \$92 group rate (plus tax) which is valid from Tuesday, February 14 to Tuesday, February 21, and includes breakfast and free WiFi.

Please visit the [WBEA 2017 Conference](#) page for more information including the conference timeline, computer workshops, and tours.

## **Free Raspberry Pi Robot Teacher Trials**

Dexter Industries launches Spy v. sPi: Code. Capture. Defend, on Kickstarter today at [www.dexterindustries.com/spy](http://www.dexterindustries.com/spy). The site includes great robotics and coding project for classrooms, workshops, after-school programs & camps.

Spy v. sPi is an exciting educational capture the flag style adventure that coaches kids to learn how to program while accomplishing a secret mission. It is based on the GrovePi ([www.grovepi.com](http://www.grovepi.com)), a Raspberry Pi robot kit that is easy-to-build and includes a rich collection of programmable, plug-and-play components—from sensors for things like distance, sound, light, and infrared, to buttons, buzzers and more.

Check out other curriculum Dexter Industries has launched recently:

- Mars Rover Unit, explore outer space with the GoPiGo Robot Car
- Inventions & Exploration, a full curriculum for the GrovePi
- GoBoxEd, Missions for the GoPiGo Robot Car

To learn more, visit [www.dexterindustries.com/dextered](http://www.dexterindustries.com/dextered).

Free teacher trial kits are available for all three of Raspberry Pi robot kits. Request one now by emailing [DexterEd@dexterindustries.com](mailto:DexterEd@dexterindustries.com).

For more information, contact Elizabeth Kiken at [DexterEd@dexterindustries.com](mailto:DexterEd@dexterindustries.com).

## Free Financial Literacy Resources from the NCUA

The National Credit Union Administration (NCUA) is the independent federal agency created by the U.S. Congress to regulate, charter and supervise federal credit unions. With the backing of the full faith and credit of the United States, NCUA operates and manages the National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund, insuring the deposits of nearly 105 million account holders in all federal credit unions and the overwhelming majority of state-chartered credit unions. At [MyCreditUnion.gov](http://MyCreditUnion.gov), NCUA also educates the public on consumer financial protection and financial literacy issues.

Under the Federal Credit Union Act, promoting financial literacy is a core credit union mission. Credit unions serve the needs of their members and promote financial literacy within the communities they serve, and NCUA works to reinforce credit union efforts, raise consumer awareness and increase access to credit union services. NCUA also participates in national financial literacy initiatives, including the Financial Literacy and Education Commission, an interagency group created by Congress to improve the nation's financial literacy and education.

[MyCreditUnion.gov](http://MyCreditUnion.gov) is NCUA's official consumer financial protection website. This free consumer website, offers personal finance information and interactive financial learning tools designed to help individuals make smarter financial decisions. The website also explains how credit unions work, where to find a credit union to join, and even how to start a credit union.

### Interactive Learning Tools for Young People

[“Hit the Road”](#) is fun resource that was developed for teaching young people money management skills in the classroom and at home. “Hit the Road” takes students on a virtual road trip where they encounter challenges, learn how to save, and spend money wisely along the way.

[“World of Cents”](#) provides a fun and engaging opportunity for children to learn the concepts of earning, saving, and spending money while building their very own magical world full of whimsical playhouses. The gameplay experience touches on the important building blocks for making smart financial decisions, such as math skills, good savings habits, and financial literacy. “World of Cents” utilizes coin value recognition to demonstrate how to save and manage money. Users even have the option of viewing their world in 4D. The game is available in the [App Store](#) and [Google Play](#). The web-based version is accessible on [MyCreditUnion.gov](http://MyCreditUnion.gov).

[NCUA Consumer Report](#) is a video series designed to engage and empower consumers to make better financial decisions. Topics include wealth building, understanding payday loans, how to avoid frauds and scams, and how savings are federally insured. The videos are available through [MyCreditUnion.gov](http://MyCreditUnion.gov) and NCUA's official YouTube channel.

NCUA's official consumer Twitter feed [@MyCUGov](https://twitter.com/MyCUGov) features daily personal finance tips designed to help individuals make better choices with their money.

To promote the financial well-being of credit union members and consumers nationwide, NCUA encourages credit unions, their member-owners, consumers, non-profits, local governments, and others to share and use NCUA's free financial literacy resources available on [MyCreditUnion.gov](http://MyCreditUnion.gov).

Visit [MyCreditUnion.gov](http://MyCreditUnion.gov) to learn more about NCUA's financial literacy resources.

Check out NCUA's new interactive infographic [“What is a Credit Union?”](#)

The interactive resource provides an easy way for people of all ages to understand how and why credit unions operate while also highlighting the differences between credit unions and other types of financial institutions, such as banks.

Also, you may watch and share the "[NCUA Consumer Report: Is a Credit Union Right for Me?](#)" video which describes the benefits of credit union membership and the products and services credit unions offer.

### **Invitation to Grok Code Quest**

You and your students—from beginners to experts—are invited to get involved in Grok Code Quest this year. Running from October 31 December 4, Grok Code Quest is a friendly online competition that teaches programming in Python, and will equip students with crucial skills for the future.

Find more information at: [grok.gl/codequest2016](http://grok.gl/codequest2016).

Grok Code offers free access for teachers so you can decide whether the material suitable for your students. Free teacher access includes Grok Code Quest, all of their other competitions, and self-paced courses. Feel free to use them for your own professional development.

This year, Grok Code is introducing a new micro:bit stream to Grok Code Quest, to celebrate the release of the BBC micro:bit (an embedded device being given free to all Year 7 students across the UK).

To help everyone get started, Grok Code is offering a free BBC micro:bit Starter Course with a full micro:bit simulator -- no micro:bit required! Visit [grok.gl/codequest2016](http://grok.gl/codequest2016) to access the free course.

If you have any questions, please email [info@groklearning.com](mailto:info@groklearning.com).

### **Montana Career & Technical Education/Perkins Report Card Update**

The Career and Technical Education Division has been working on new ways to keep Montana's schools updated on how they measure up and one of the latest ways we are doing so is by adding a new tab called Report Cards on the Secondary CTE page ([opi.mt.gov/programs/CTAE/CTE.html](http://opi.mt.gov/programs/CTAE/CTE.html)) of the OPI website.

If a school's score falls below the State minimum (Threshold Target) for three consecutive years, the Carl D. Perkins Federal Grant requires the school to develop an improvement plan to address how the school plans to increase their scores in the core indicator they missed. A Small Schools Exemption – ten (10) CTE Concentrators or less – unfortunately, cannot apply to Perkins Performance Indicators. All schools receiving Perkins, regardless of their CTE Concentrator total, are required to develop an improvement plan.

This Report Cards tab allows schools to view their schools '3-Year Report Card', their individual 'Report Card' as well as 'Report Cards' by Class Size and CIP (Classification of Instructional Programs). Each schools '3-Year Report Card' is broken down by performance indicators and includes visual graphs. Schools can also view the Montana State Report Card. The Report Cards are created from data collected from AIM. If your school is not listed in the 'Individual School 3-year report card', it is because the school has less than 10 CTE Concentrators in all three (3) years.

The direct link to the Report Cards can be found at [opi.mt.gov/Programs/CTAE/CTE.html#gpm1\\_12](http://opi.mt.gov/Programs/CTAE/CTE.html#gpm1_12).

The Perkins Core Indicators, as well as explanations and Threshold Targets for each indicator, are available. The state goals for each core indicator are determined by the United States Department of Education.

Schools receiving Carl D. Perkins funding, are required to meet at least 90 percent of the state adjusted level of performance for any of the core indicators of performance.

If you have any questions about the report cards, please contact Christy Hendricks, CTE/Perkins Data Control Specialist, at 406.444.9019 or email her at [chendricks@mt.gov](mailto:chendricks@mt.gov).

### **Attending DECA WRLC, ACTE in Las Vegas, or Jump\$tart in Dallas? Earn OPI Renewal Units for your Travels**

Are you planning to attend ACTE's CareerTech VISION conference in Las Vegas? Or, maybe you have registered to attend the 2016 Jump\$tart National Educator Conference in Dallas next month. If so, be sure to submit the required information to OPI to be able to turn your out-of-state professional development travel into OPI Renewal Units.

Keep in mind, all educator licenses that expire in 2016 and in subsequent years no longer need college credits; only 60 professional development renewal units are new required.

The Educator Licensure division of the Office of Public Instruction will grant renewal units for certificate renewal when a Montana educator wishes to receive renewal units for attending an event not either delivered by an approved OPI provider or approved by OPI as a single event. To gain the renewal units, you must complete the [Educator's Application for Prior Approval of Professional Development Activities for Renewal Units](#) form.

The fillable PDF [Pre-Approval form](#) can be downloaded at <http://www.opi.mt.gov/pdf/cert/PreApprovePDActivities.pdf>. The completed form and a copy of the documentation, brochure, or promotional materials about the event need to be mailed to the address indicated on the form and be received at least seven (7) days prior to the event's start.

After you download the form, complete the required educator information and information about the course, conference, workshop, event or seminar. To determine the number of number of renewal units requested, most event documentation states the number of contact hours, the number of credits granted (1 semester credit=15 hours/units and 1 quarter credit-10 hours/units); or the number of credit hours granted by another education-related agency. Remember, units are awarded in whole hours—1 hour=1 unit; 1.5 hours=1 unit; 1.75 hours=2 units.

When the event is completed, submit documentation of your participation (most likely a certificate of completion including the number of contact hours) and a copy of your approval letter from the OPI and OPI will send you an official certificate. The certificate should be filed with your renewal unit certificates and college transcripts to be used as evidence when you apply for renewal of your Educator License.

Please keep in mind, if you have applied to receive college credit for the event, you cannot request approval for renewal units.

Should you have questions about the preapproval process, you may contact the Educator Licensure office at 406.444.3150.

## **Fall 2016 CTE Data Collection for Perkins Funding Now Open – Where are Your 2016 Grads?**

The Fall 2016 CTE Data Collection begins on October 1 and ends December 31, 2016. The Fall CTE Data Collection is a follow up to last year's Spring CTE Data Collection.

Students identified as CTE Concentrators last year (2015-2016) and graduated in the spring of 2016 should be contacted between October 1 and December 31 and asked their current post-graduation status. After contact, the appropriate post-graduation status code must be entered into the AIM/Infinite Campus data system for each CTE Concentrator.

All high schools that received funding from the Carl D. Perkins federal grant program in 2015-2016 are required to complete this fall follow up collection to maintain their eligibility to receive Perkins funding.

Instructions for completing the Fall CTE Data Collection—called the *'Quick Reference Guide' for the Fall CTE Data Collection*—are located in two places on the OPI website on the AIM web page listed in Reports and Data and also on the Secondary CTE web page (<http://opi.mt.gov/programs/CTAE/CTE.html>) under the *'Data Collections'* tab.

**Please Note:** Be sure to verify the list of CTE Concentrators from what your district submitted last spring. Any additions, corrections, or changes to the list of CTE Concentrators must be made no later than November 15, 2016, to be accurately reflected in federal reporting and used to compute Perkins Performance Indicators for your school.

Technical AIM questions regarding the Fall CTE Data Collection should be directed to the AIM Helpdesk at 1.877.424.6681 (toll-free) or email [opiainhelp@mt.gov](mailto:opiainhelp@mt.gov).

Questions regarding the Carl D. Perkins federal grant program data requirements should be directed to Christy Hendricks, CTE/Perkins Data Control Specialist at 406.444.9019 or email [chendricks@mt.gov](mailto:chendricks@mt.gov).

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Christy Hendricks: phone: 406.444.9019; email: [chendricks@mt.gov](mailto:chendricks@mt.gov)

## **Fun Facts and Trivia**

Guam is located roughly 7,000 miles from the U.S. mainland and over 3800 west of Hawaii.

Guam is the largest and southernmost of the islands that form a part of the Mariana Islands in the western Pacific.



The island was first visited by the Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan on March 6, 1521, while sailing for the King of Spain.

The Mariana Islands were claimed by Spain in the sixteenth century and named after Queen Mariana, the mother of Charles II of Spain.

Guam's capital city Hagåtña, formerly Agana, is believed to be one of the oldest 'European' cities in the Pacific.

Guam was a Spanish colony for over 300 and was ceded to the U.S. after the Spanish-American War in 1898 via the Treaty of Paris.

Guam was also bombed by the Japanese just over four hours after the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. Following the attack, the U.S. was forced to surrender Guam to Japanese forces.

From December 1941 through July 1944, the Japanese controlled the island and renamed it 'Omiya Jima', meaning 'Great Shrine Island' until the U.S. liberated the island from Japanese control on July 21, 1944.

The motto of Guam is "Where America's Day Begins" as it is on "the other side" of the International Dateline. Guam is in Chamorro Standard Time, which is 16 or 17 hours ahead of Mountain Time as Guam does not observe Daylight Saving Time.

Guam observes two national holidays—Guam Discovery Day on the first Monday in March and Liberation Day on July 21.

Montana's Business Education Specialist, Eric Swenson, was born in Guam.

Issues of the Wednesday Reader are archived on the Montana Business Education Association (MBEA) website at [www.mbea.info](http://www.mbea.info). The Wednesday Readers are under the Newsletter section and listed most-recent first.

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*"You don't make decisions because they are easy; you don't make them because they are cheap; you don't make them because they're popular; you make them because they're right." ~Rev. Theodore Hesburgh*