The Wednesday Reader
October 11, 2017

Please note, with the New CTE Professionals Workshop and the Montana ACTE Fall Institute next week, there will not be a Wednesday Reader for Wednesday, October 18.

CTE U.S. Presidential Scholars Program
The U.S. Presidential Scholars Program was established in 1964, by executive order of the President, to recognize and honor some of our nation's most distinguished graduating high school seniors. In 1979, the program was extended to recognize students who demonstrate exceptional talent in the visual, creative and performing arts.

In 2015, the program was again extended to recognize students who demonstrate ability and accomplishment in career and technical education fields. Each year, up to 161 students are named as Presidential Scholars, one of the nation's highest honors for high school students.

All high school seniors that are CTE Concentrators (3 Credits or more of CTE) and graduating between January and June of 2018, who are U.S. citizens or legal permanent residents and who attend public, parochial, or independent schools, as well as those who are home-schooled, are eligible. The candidates will go through the application process, and as in the past, the 2018 U.S. Presidential Scholars will be selected by the Commission on Presidential Scholars and receive the Presidential Scholars Medallion at a ceremony in their honor in Washington, DC.

Nominations of Montana CTE students for the 2018 CTE U.S. Presidential Scholars Program are due October 15, 2017.

Details about the CTE U.S. Presidential Scholars Program can be found on the OPI website at http://opi.mt.gov/Educators/Teaching-Learning/Career-Technical-Education/US-Presidential-Scholars-Program, along with the Selection Timeline and Presidential Scholar Nomination form.

Spots Still Available for FinCamp Montana @ Fairmont—Get a Free Room, $100 Stipend, & OPI Renewal Units
NGPF FinCamp: Montana will be held at Fairmont Hot Springs on Friday afternoon, October 20 and Saturday morning, October 21 at Fairmont Hot Springs.

Sponsored by Next Gen Personal Finance (NGPF) (www.ngpf.org) and the Montana Business Education Association (MBEA), FinCamp (Financial Camps) is a nation-wide event to connect personal finance educators. FinCamps build the community of personal finance educators, providing opportunities for collaborative discussion about pedagogy, and increase teacher's own knowledge about personal finance topics.

NGPF FinCamp: Montana will piggy-back off of the 2017 Montana ACTE Fall Institute; however, you do not have to attend the Montana ACTE Fall Institute in order to attend NGPF FinCamp: Montana.

The FinCamp in Montana will consist of 2 sessions—session 1 is Friday afternoon only (1:30-4:30 pm) and session 2 will include Friday afternoon along with a Saturday morning session (9 am-Noon). For those interested in attending both sessions (Friday afternoon AND Saturday morning), your hotel accommodation will be covered and you will also receive a $100 stipend at the completion of the professional development session.

In addition, OPI Renewal Unit will be available for those who attend either the Friday afternoon session only or the Friday afternoon & Saturday morning sessions.

Registration for the first ever NGPF FinCamp: Montana can be completed online at www.bit.ly/2xaBWjG.

Questions regarding NGPF FinCamp: Montana can be sent to MBEA President Nicole Bogunovich at bogunovichn@billingsschools.org.

Verify Courses Entered into OPI's TEAMS Sytem—Date Used for Perkins, CTE Funding, & Pathways Reporting

Schools are currently entering data into OPI's TEAMS System (Terms of Employment, Accreditation, and Master Schedule). Data from TEAMS pertaining to Career and Technical Education courses, student enrollments, and teacher certification is used for Carl Perkins accountability reporting and factors that determine the State CTE (State VoEd) allocations. Additionally, beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, the data will be used to verify and approve Montana Career Pathways (formerly Big Sky Pathways).

Therefore, it is imperative that the information submitted is complete and accurate. Any high school district planning to apply for Carl Perkins and/or State CTE (State VoEd) funding for next year (2018-2019) should submit the additional data in TEAMS for all current CTE programs at their high school.

When reviewing the data for your courses within the TEAMS System, please verify the following information is correct—

--Name of teacher(s) for courses

--All current courses being taught for the 2017-2018 school year are listed and the correct course title is listed under for the District Course Title

--All courses listed are aligned to the correct Course Code & Title

--Number of students enrolled and breakdown of males and females

--Term Type for courses (Semester, Full Year, Quarter, etc.)

--Class Minutes (the minutes of instruction for each individual course per the term type)

--If an extended contract is identified along with the number of days of the contract

If you need a listing of the OPI Course Codes and Descriptions, a Reference Manual for Business & Marketing Education can be downloaded from the Business Education page of the OPI website at opi.mt.gov/Educators/Teaching-Learning/Career-Technical-Education/Business-Education.

All data should be reviewed, verified, and corrected by November 1. After this date, TEAMS will close for new data entries.

If you have questions about your data in TEAMS or if you cannot get access to your data, please let me know.

Invitation to MSU's Entrepreneurship Day for Montana High School Students—Register Due October 16
Greetings from Montana State University Jake Jabs College of Business & Entrepreneurship.

We have a very exciting 14th annual Entrepreneur Day planned for Friday, October 27 at the MSU campus in Bozeman. This event is geared towards students interested in entrepreneurship and business, but it is also a great opportunity to visit a land grant university and learn more about higher education. Our business school with option areas in Accounting, Finance, Management and Marketing, is accredited by AACSB; only 5% of all business schools hold this distinction.

We think this year's keynote speakers will highly resonate with your students. Darktwin Studios, founded by Waylon Roberts, is a group of artists, programmers, and writers passionate about telling personal stories through the interactive medium of video games. The keynote will be shared by Cowboy Crickets Farms founded by James and Kathy Rolin in 2016. Cowboy Crickets Farm is a commercial cricket farm in Bozeman which raises and processes crickets to make cricket powder for many different food products.
The day will have an interactive workshop designed to be motivating and educational. We invite you to inform your students of this great event and encourage them to attend. Entrepreneurship Day is free and does include lunch for students.

The tentative schedule for the day is as follows:

9:00 -9:30 am: Check-In/Registration
9:30-9:40 am: Welcome/Overview
9:40 am-12:40 pm: Interactive Design/Build a Business Workshop. Pitches. Awards
12:45 pm: Lunch
1:15 pm: Keynote, Q&A
2:00 pm: College Tours for schools

We have a special teacher training/sharing session this year led by MSU Business faculty Susan Dana and Terry Profota. They will share their experiences introducing business and entrepreneurship through experiential learning with freshmen students. High school teachers are encouraged to share their victories, challenges and lessons learned through their schools' business curriculum.

Due to space limitations, we recommend that you reserve your school's seats as soon as possible. To accommodate proper set up, handouts and food preparation, please click on this link to reserve a spot for your school immediately and send the student list on/before October 16. (Format = Student Last Name, Student First Name, School Name) to Lward@montana.edu.

Please contact Linda Ward, lward@montana.edu or 406-994-1995, if you have any questions or concerns. I understand this is a busy time of year for all, but we will provide a fun and highly valuable educational experience for you and your students.

"Save, Spend, Donate, Vacation" - It's time again for MFEC's Annual Poster Contest
The Montana Financial Education Coalition (MFEC) announces the opening of the Annual Poster Contest. Encourage the students in your classroom, kindergarten through fifth grade, to learn the important life lesson of how to handle money responsibly. The understanding of good and bad choices in using money will influence when and how a child decides to spend his or her money.

Winning submissions will be featured in MFEC's 2018 Calendar.

In "Save, Spend, Donate, Vacation," creativity is highly encouraged. Children must illustrate the choices to make with money they receive or earn.

Remember to use a lot of fun colors and fill the space! The poster template is separated by these four areas and should illustrate:

--**Save**–something that the child would like to save their money to purchase
--**Spend**–something the child will use their money to purchase which should be a need, not a want. (Needs are things we must have to survive. Wants are things we would like to have.)
--**Donate**–something the child would purchase to donate or the organization to which the child would donate their money
--**Vacation**–place the child would save their money to visit on vacation

Participants must create their "Save, Spend, Donate, Vacation" posters creatively on the submission template provided below.

Please read the Contest Guidelines and prepare a Contest Permission form to accompany each entry. Submissions are due Friday, October 27.

Access Poster Contest information now at mtmfec.org.

$1000 529 College Savings Scholarship Opportunity
The EVERFI Scholarship Contest has begun! Take advantage of our Financial Literacy and Career Exploration resources, provided at **no cost** by generous national sponsors, and your students will have the opportunity to submit an entry into the contest.

Students who complete either FutureSmart, a 6th-8th Financial Literacy course, or Endeavor, a 6-9 STEM Career Exploration course, are eligible to win! All entries must be submitted here by **January 19, 2018**.

Reach out to Cari Turner, cturner@everfi.com, for more information about how to register and get students started!

Fall 2017 CTE Data Collection Begins—Time to Report on Status of 2017 Graduates for Perkins Funding
The Fall 2017 CTE Data Collection begins on October 1 and ends December 31, 2017. The Fall CTE Data Collection is a follow up to last year's Spring CTE Data Collection for Perkins grant reporting.

Students identified as CTE Concentrators last year (2016-2017) and graduated in the spring of 2017 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 2016-2017 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 AIM User Guides and also on the CTE web page under the *'Data Collections'* button.

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 1, 2017**, 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 opiaimhelp@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.

Updated Framework & OPI Course Codes Manual for Business & Marketing Education Available
A complete PDF version of the Framework can be downloaded from the Business Education section of the Montana OPI website at opi.mt.gov/Educators/Teaching-Learning/Career-Technical-Education/Business-Education. If you would like to just download the BPA and DECA competitive event crosswalks, they can be downloaded at from the Business Education section of the Montana OPI website as well or directly at https://goo.gl/6aAFKc.

While on the Business Education section of the Montana OPI website, be sure to download the Montana Business Education 2017-2018 Planning Calendar.

Also updated for the 2017-2018 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, the 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.

The OPI TEAMS Current Listing of All Montana K-12 Course Codes and Descriptions Reference Manual for Business & Marketing Education can be download at http://opi.mt.gov/Portals/182/Page%20Files/Career%20%26%20Technical%20Education/Docs/Business/BusMrktEdCourseCodesUpdated20170928.pdf.

To assist teachers and administrators with mapping district courses to the OPI/SCED codes before the data is entered into TEAMS, a TEAMS Participation Report Worksheet for Course Codes worksheet is also available on the Business Education section of the Montana OPI website.

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 [2017 Business Professionals of America, Montana Association Fall Leadership Conference](#), the [2017 New CTE Professionals Workshop](#) and the [2017 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.

CTE 2017-2018 Perkins Grant Approval Reminder for Districts Applying for 2017-2018 Funding

The CTE Division of the OPI is sending this brief, but friendly reminder to all districts intending to submit a 2017-2018 Perkins grant application to please obtain final OPI approval of your initial Perkins application through the E-Grants system no later than Tuesday, October 31, 2017.

Only the initial/original application is subject to this deadline. Amendments to approved Perkins applications 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:
--Shannon Boswell: phone: 406.444.4451; email: shannon.boswell@mt.gov
--Renee Erlandsen: phone: 406.994.6986; email: rerlandsen@mt.gov
--Christy Hendricks: phone: 406.444.9019; email: chendricks@mt.gov
--Don Michalsky: phone: 406.444.4452; email: dmichalsky@mt.gov
--Eric Swenson: phone: 406.444.7991; email: eswenson@mt.gov
--Megan Vincent: phone: 406.444.3599; email: mvincent2@mt.gov

Back to School... Back to Cyber—October is National Cybersecurity Awareness Month

Celebrate Cyber Education with LifeJourney's NSA Day of Cyber during National Cybersecurity Awareness Month.

Summer is over and National Cybersecurity Awareness Month (NCSAM) - observed every October - is right around the corner, which makes this the perfect time to plan your "NSA Day of Cyber" day.

Choose a date this October to run the [NSA Day of Cyber](#) (nsadayofcyber.com) online cyber career exploration experience in your classroom and connect your students to some of the most in-demand career opportunities in cybersecurity.

[Stop. Think. Connect.](#)—the global online safety education and awareness campaign is the cornerstone of this month-long program to educate all consumers and businesses about the importance of cybersecurity and protecting personal information. Check out [Stop. Think. Connect.](#) at stopthinkconnect.org.

Win a Trip and Get Recognized at the Kickoff of CSEdWeek 2017

Teachers and students have been at the heart of the amazing growth in computer science education, and now it is time to shine a light on those achievements. Share what you, your student, your school, and/or your district have accomplished this past year for the opportunity to be recognized at the kickoff event for Computer Science Education Week on December 4, 2017.

Example achievements:

A teacher doubled the number of students in a computer science program and increased the percentage of females and underrepresented minorities.

A student created an app that helps people in their community.

A school held a special Computer Science showcase for all students and their families.

A district made computer science mandatory for all incoming freshmen.

A new after-school club for elementary school students was created, and those students placed first in a regional competition.

Those selected will be awarded a trip to Palo Alto, CA to be recognized on stage at the kickoff of CSEdWeek. The awards event is a collaboration between the CSTA and Code.org. Selected students must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. This opportunity is only available for US submissions.

The nomination period opens October 2, 2017, and closes October 20, 2017, at 11:59 pm PT. Selections will be announced at the end of October. To be eligible, teachers must be employed at a K-12/pre-university school.

Nominate a student, your school, yourself, a fellow teacher/administrator/counselor, an organization, or after-school club, etc....the point is to celebrate computer science.

[Click here to submit an achievement](#)

Email awards@csteachers.org if you have any questions.

Celebrate National Cyber Security Awareness Month in October with the NSA Day of Cyber
Support National Cybersecurity Awareness Month by running the NSA Day of Cyber online cybersecurity career awareness experience in your classroom during the month of October.

The [NSA Day of Cyber](#) experience will enable your students to sit virtually beside the NSA Cyber Threat Director and test drive a day in the life of six NSA cyber professionals. Students will participate in challenging real-life cyber scenarios, discover the skills and tools used by NSA cyber professionals, explore the vast number of careers in cybersecurity, and generate their "Cyber Resume."

Educators... remember to log into your Instructor Dashboard, where you will retrieve the Student Registration Key and URL to share with students.

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

If you have questions, please feel free to contact Kim Paradise, NSA Day of Cyber Executive Director, at Kim@lifejourney.us or at 410-598-2548.

Fun Facts and Trivia

Fur seals are classified as pinnipeds, a word which is derived from the Latin and means "flap-footed."

Native to the northern Pacific Ocean, northern fur seals have the second thickest fur of any animal, second only to the sea otter.

Northern fur seals are found throughout the Northern Pacific Ocean from Japan to southern California all the way up to the Bering Sea.

The primary diet of the fur seal consists mainly of squid, pollack, herring, salmon, mackerel, and anchovies.

Fur seals spend half their lives or more in the water, yet are adept at moving on land.

According to the Society for Marine Mammalogy, there are 8 species of fur seals. They are all categorized in the Otariidae family, a family of animals that also includes sea lions.

Seals have ears, but not all seals have visible ears. Animals in the Otariidae family (fur seals and sea lions) have visible ear flaps, but "true" seals like harbor and gray seals do not have a visible ear flap. Instead, they have a dark opening on the side of their head that leads to the ear canal.

Males fur seals are larger than females with the largest fur seal being the cape fur seal, or brown fur seal. In this species, males can grow to about 7 feet and weigh over 600 pounds and females can grow to 5.6 feet in length, weighing up to about 172 pounds.

Fur seals have a thick coat comprised of 2 layers of fur: a thick, waterproof layer of fine fur that is protected by a coat of stiff guard hairs.

A fur seal's fur covers everything but the seal's flippers.

Fur seals can rotate their hind flippers forward so that they can walk or run fairly quickly on land. This is fairly remarkable in the seal world, as "true" seals have flippers that project behind their bodies, so when they are on land, they essentially flop around on their bellies and front flippers, but can't really walk.

Issues of the Wednesday Reader are archived on the Montana Business Education Association (MBEA) website at 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