Montana Business Educator Named Teacher of the Year

Molly Barta, business educator and BPA chapter advisor at Billings Skyview High School, was named 2017 Teacher of the Year by the [Montana Association for Career and Technical Education](#).

The Montana Association for Career and Technical Education held the 2017 Montana ACTE Fall Institute at Fairmont Hot Springs, October 19-20. During the Awards Luncheon Thursday afternoon, Montana ACTE honored last year's retirees and presented this year's awards program.

Molly competed against other teachers from Montana's career and technical education program areas and will now advance to represent Montana at the ACTE Region V conference in Colorado Springs, Colorado, in April 2018.

In addition to Molly being the Montana Business Education Association's nominee for Montana ACTE Teacher of the Year, Bozeman High School business educator Casey Donahue was also an award nominee for Montana ACTE New Teacher of the Year.

Congratulation to both Casey and Molly and thank you for your contributions to the classroom and the business education profession.

Montana Business Educators Awarded during the 2017 MBEA Business Meeting

The [Montana Business Education Association](#) (MBEA) held its annual business meeting Thursday, October 19 as part of the 2017 Montana ACTE Fall Institute at Fairmont Hot Springs.

MBEA Interim President Nicole Bogunovich, Billings West High School, recognized Montana Business Educators who retired at the end of the 2016-2017 school year—Laura Bakich, Absarokee; Cheryl Graham, Bainville; Angela Toner, Dutton-Brady; Tine Wheeler, Thompson Falls—and also presented MBEA awards to an outstanding professional and a supporting business/corporate sponsor.

The 2017 MBEA Outstanding Secondary Business Teacher of the Year award was presented to Terri Norman of (Helena) Capital High School. Terri has taught at both the junior high and high school levels for the Helena School District., advises the Capital High School BPA chapter, is a facilitator for Capital High School's Montana Behavioral Initiative Multi-Tiered System of Support, and is also heavily involved in the Special Olympics Montana and the Tri-County area where she serves as a regional coordinator and a mentor for the Tri-County Youth Activation Committee.

The 2017 Outstanding Contributions to Business Education by a Business/Corporate Sponsor was presented to GE Capital of Billings. GE Capital and the employees of the Billings office have donated curriculum materials to the business department of Billings West High School. The materials are used by Billings West business students as they complete a variety of projects and as part of the Introduction to Business dual credit course with MSU Billings.

Thank you MBEA retirees for your years of dedication, inspiration, leadership, and professionalism and congratulations to MBEA's truly-deserving award winners.

The 2018 Montana ACTE Fall Institute will be held in Billings, October 18-19, at the Red Lion Inn & Convention Center.

Officers Selected for 2018 for the Montana Business Education Association

Members of the Montana Business Education Association (MBEA) (www.mbea.info) elected a new slate of officers for 2018 during the 2017 MBEA Business Meeting. The 2017 MBEA Business Meeting was held in Bozeman on Thursday, October 19 during the Montana ACTE Fall Institute.

The 2018 MBEA officers include

--President: Nicole Bogunovich, Billings West
--President Elect: Calie Wineinger, Froid
--Vice President: Casey Donahue, Bozeman
--Secretary: Laurie Koepplin, St. Regis
--Treasurer: Terri Norman, Capital (Helena)
--Membership: Director: Jeanette Barreto, Colstrip
--Past President: Brad Mehr, Bozeman

State CTE/VoEd Funding Allocations for 2017-2018 Posted for Review

The State CTE/VoEd funding final allocation has been generated based on the data entered into TEAMS (**T**erms of **E**mployment, **A**ccreditation, and **M**aster **S**chedule) for the prior 2016-2017 school year. The CTE tab in TEAMS was made available last April and districts were asked to complete a few additional items on the tab and review the details carefully to make sure the data was accurate.

The 2017-2018 State CTE/VoEd Funding allocations will be made to districts by November 1. The State CTE/VoEd Funding preliminary allocations can be found on the Career & Technical Education page of the OPI website (http://opi.mt.gov/Educators/Teaching-Learning/Career-Technical-Education) under the Funding tab.

A direct link to the allocations can be found at 2018 Final VoEd Payment Detail by Legal Entity.

If you have any questions about your data, please contact one of the CTE Specialists. All corrections/questions must be received by the end of the day Thursday, October 26.

--Agriculture Education: Shannon Boswell, 406.444.4451; shannon.boswell@mt.gov
--Business Education: Eric Swenson, 406.444.7991; eswenson@mt.gov
--Family & Consumer Sciences Education: Megan Vincent, 406.444.3599; mvincent2@mt.gov
--Health Science Education: Renee Erlandsen, 406.994.6986; rerlandsen@mt.gov
--Industrial Trades & Technology Education: Don Michalsky, 406.444.4452; dmichalsky@mt.gov
--CTE Data Specialist: Christy Hendricks, 406.444.9019; chendricks@mt.gov
--TEAMS Project Manager: Danielle Murphy, 406.444.1625; opiteams@mt.gov

Verify Courses Entered into OPI's TEAMS System—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.

Funding the Future Engages & Motivates Students to Harness Money as a Tool to Succeed & Achieve
Financial literacy: a skill that makes or breaks us. Inspiring students with lessons of financial discipline is a tall order. Funding the Future (fundingthefuturelive.org) delivers an innovative, powerful tool to engage and motivate middle and high school students to harness money as a tool to succeed and achieve their dreams – through live Rock and Hip-Hop performances by celebrity musical artists. By using the undeniable energy of a live performance, multimedia visuals, proven written curriculum, and integral testimony of the artists' life stories, dreams, trials and successes, we inspire students' interest in financial literacy.

For Students - Financial Literacy Topics Covered: General Financial Literacy, Dangers of Credit Card Debt, Pitfalls of Predatory Lending and Payday Lending, Creating a Financial Savings and Investment Game Plan, low and Steady Wins the Race – Debunking the Myth of Overnight Success

For Schools: Enhances your existing financial literacy education. Gives real-world education and examples of how to manage money. Delivers information in an uplifting, unique, and effective way. Program is offered at low to no cost to schools; we work with each individual school to determine ability to support the program. Funding may come from show sponsors, grants or donations.

Funding the Future is excited to offer new music genres and artists to our performance menu. In 2018, Funding the Future will begin to offer Hip-Hop and Rap artists, in addition to Rock and Country celebrity artists. New partnerships include collaboration with Operation Hope and Goodwill. Funding the Future is pleased to be a United Way partner agency.

Sign up for the Hour of Code—December 4-10

In six weeks, it will be time to kick off the largest learning event in history … for the fifth time. December 4-10, during Computer Science Education Week, tens of millions of students will gather all around the world to participate in the annual Hour of Code. For many, it will be their first introduction to computer science, but for others, it has become an annual celebration of computer science and the movement to expand opportunity.

Plan for you and your students to join in and sign up your classroom today for the Hour of Code. And as you do, please go one step further - let us know how computer science is offered at your school, and join the thousands of teachers in pledging to expand access.

Visit hourofcode.com/us#join to sign up and join in the fun.

If computer science is not offered at your school, the Hour of Code is a great way to build excitement and support to start a new program.

Schools already offering computer science find the Hour of Code an ideal way to celebrate CS Education Week, raise awareness of their programs, recruit students into courses, and explore expansion. There are one-hour activities for both beginners and experienced coders. Consider reaching beyond your classroom this week. Host a school assembly, a parent's coding night, or an activity in your community.

Get started with the easy how-to guide. You can even do an Hour of Code without computers or an internet connection.

12 Free Posters. As a special thank you, Code.org is giving one free set of 12 inspirational posters to teachers hosting an Hour of Code while supplies last (shipping not included). You'll receive a discount code to use in our online store after you sign up.

And, Code.org has upgraded their servers. As always, you do not need to create accounts or log in to participate in the Hour of Code. But, if you want to, Code.org and many other partners support classroom management throughout the Hour of Code. In the past, this has been disabled due to not being prepared for so many users. This year, they are prepared. Teachers can set up a classroom, assign a Code.org activity, and track student progress in their dashboard. You can also continue to use our other courses such as CS Fundamentals and save progress throughout the week.

Invite a technology professional to your classroom*
Check out the Code.org volunteer database and schedule a classroom visit! Code.org is excited to have university students, independent professionals, and volunteers from technology companies available to make the Hour of Code even more special.

Spread the word. Technology is changing every industry on the planet, and computer science has become relevant to a wide range of careers—even those outside technology and engineering. For millions of students, the Hour of Code will be an inspiring introduction to crucial 21st century skills. Help us reach even more people by forwarding this email to another teacher. Or forward it to a principal to get your whole school on board.

NCWIT Award for Aspirations in Computing—Only 2 Weeks Left in the Contest!
This is the 6th year and we need your help.

For a number of years, the NCWIT (National Center for Women and Information Technology) has given national awards to high school girls. The **NCWIT Award for Aspirations in Computing** is for young women with aspirations and achievements in technology and computing.

This year will be the sixth year that there also will be a MONTANA contest for Montana girls. The time to submit applications is **September 1 through November 6** and the application is found at http://www.aspirations.org/participate/high-school.

There are many qualified high school girls that would apply if they just had a little push from a leader like you. Any interested female high school student would need to fill in the on-line application, and get a parent and a school official to approve it to be entered into both the national and Montana contests.

We have had winners from high schools in Absarokee, Anaconda, Arlee, Beaverhead County, Bozeman, Cascade, Cut Bank, Helena Capital, Helena High, Jefferson High, Libby, Missoula Big Sky, Missoula Hellgate, Missoula Sentinel, Noxon, Park County, Simms and Whitefish High School. We hope your school will be represented on the winners list this year. But girls have to apply.

We are looking forward to recognizing Montana's talent, and hope that you would encourage the young women that you know to apply. Sometimes all they need is a little encouragement and you are the person to provide that.

Visit www.aspirations.org/participate/high-school for more information.

"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
The Giraffe is the tallest living terrestrial animal; when fully grown, male Giraffes can attain a height of almost 20 feet--most of that, of course, taken up by this mammal's elongated neck--and a weight of a little over a ton

Technically, Giraffes are classified as artiodactyls, or even-toed ungulates--which puts them in the same mammalian family as whales, pigs, deer and cows, all of which evolved from a "last common ancestor" that probably lived some time during the Eocene epoch, about 50 million years ago.

The Structures on a Giraffe's head are called Ossicones. They are not quite horns, and they are not quite ornamental bumps; rather, they're hardened bits of cartilage covered by skin and anchored firmly to this animal's skull.

Like most artiodactyls, male Giraffes are significantly bigger than females, and the "ossicones" atop their heads have a slightly different appearance.

During mating season, male Giraffes will engage in "necking," in which two combatants jostle one another and attempt to land blows with their ossicones.

While all Giraffes belong to the same genus and species, *Giraffa camelopardalis*, naturalists recognize nine separate subspecies: the Nubian Giraffe, the Reticulated Giraffe, the Angolan Giraffe, the Kordofan Giraffe, the Masai Giraffe, the South African Giraffe, the West African Giraffe, the Rhodesian Giraffe, and Rothschild's Giraffe.

Most zoo Giraffes are either the Reticulated or Rothschild variety, which are roughly comparable in size but can be distinguished by the patterns of their coats.

As far as experts can tell, the name Giraffe derives from the Arabic word "zarafa," or "fast walker," and Arab travelers may themselves have adopted this word from a Somali tribe.

Once a Giraffe has reached its adult size, it's extremely unusual for it to be attacked, much less killed, by lions or hyenas

Giraffe can easily be ambushed at a water hole, since it has to adopt an ungainly posture when taking a drink; Nile crocodiles have been known to chomp on the necks of full-grown Giraffes, drag them into the water, and feast at leisure on their copious carcasses.

Giraffes only need 5 to 30 minutes of sleep in a 24-hour period. They often achieve that in quick naps that may last only a minute or two at a time.

Female Giraffes tend to give birth to a single calf around 400–460 days after mating; females give birth whilst standing up.

Baby Giraffes can stand within half an hour and after only 10 hours can run alongside their family.

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