

The Wednesday Reader

December 4, 2019

Please note, I will be out of the office for the ACTE CareerTech VISION and NICE K-12 Cybersecurity Education conferences until December 12; therefore, there will not be a Wednesday Reader next week, December 11. The last edition for 2019 will be December 18.

Early-Bird Registration for the WBEA 2020 Conference in South Bay, California, Ends Saturday, December 7

The Western Business Education Association's [2020 Conference](#) will be held February 14-17 in the South Bay area of southern California. The host site is the Torrance Marriott Redondo Beach, just a short 10 miles south of Los Angeles International Airport (LAX), three (3) miles from the Redondo Beach Pier and Pacific Ocean, and across the street from the third-largest shopping mall in the US, Del Amo Fashion Center.

The early bird registration rate for NBEA members is \$325 and is available thru December 7, 2019. This includes all breakouts, computer workshops, one industry tour, two receptions with food, a continental breakfast, the exhibitor's luncheon on Saturday, the awards banquet on Sunday. Your registration and payment can be completed online at bit.ly/wbea2020conference.

Hotel reservations at the Torrance Marriott Redondo Beach can be booked online at bit.ly/wbea2020marriott. Room rates for the [WBEA 2020 Conference](#) are \$155 plus taxes. Hotel reservations must be completed before January 23, 2020.

For complete [WBEA 2020 Conference](#) details, please visit bit.ly/wbea2020conference.

Registration Open for the WBEA's Professional Development Leadership Training During 2020 Conference

The [Western Business Education Association](#)'s Professional Development Leadership Training (PDLT) is a single training session for Presidents-elect, Membership Directors, as well as all potential leaders within the Western region's states, territories, and provinces (S/T/Ps).

The 2020 workshop will be led by Ariel Dykstra, WBEA President-elect; Nancy Backlund, WBEA Membership Director; and Keith Hannah, WBEA PDLT Director. PDLT will be held Friday morning, February 14, from 7:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. This workshop will not only provide leadership training but also more in-depth direction and help for those assuming or thinking about leadership positions at the state, regional or national levels.

WBEA only meets once a year; hence it is extremely important that Presidents-elect and Membership Directors work with the current WBEA President-elect and WBEA Membership Director throughout the year in order to complete a Programs of Work and submit related reports for NBEA headquarters. This workshop is the best venue that we have available for people united in these tasks to network and to ask questions. We provide information in this workshop that will be needed throughout the year.

Additionally, attendees will have the opportunity to meet current WBEA officers, the NBEA Executive Director, and the NBEA President. Our over-arching goal is to continue to strengthen WBEA and NBEA! This is a first step to making a stronger organization, and we need your help. Please ask your Presidents-elect, Membership Directors, and potential leaders from your S/T/P to fill out the online PDLT application (bit.ly/2020pdlapp) and submit it by December 15, 2019. *Please note that PDLT registration is in addition to regular WBEA Registration that participants will need to complete and send.*

New this year—First time PDLT attendees are encouraged to apply for the First-Time Attendee to the PDLT Scholarship. Each S/T/P is eligible to receipt up to two \$100 scholarships. Applicants must be recommended by their S/T/P board and commit to attend the 2020 PDLT, held during the WBEA Conference in Torrance, CA February 14-17, 2020. Applications and more information can be found on the Professional Development section of the WBEA website at wbea.info/professional-development.html.

Education Resources from Intuit for TurboTax, QuickBooks and Mint

Intuit is a mission-driven, global financial platform company that gives everyone the opportunity to prosper. Intuit's products, including TurboTax, QuickBooks and Mint, help our customers around the world make more money, with the least amount of work, while having complete confidence in their actions and decisions.

[Intuit's education offerings](#) provide new opportunities for career and financial readiness through creative educational programs and partnerships at no cost. Our career readiness programs focus on career exploration, skill development and teaching the entrepreneurial mindset. Our financial readiness programs focus on shifting financial behaviors, reducing student loan debt and instilling financial wellness.

Mint Simulations:

[Intuit Education](#) (intuit.com/partners/education-program) has developed five new personal finance modules in partnership with [Take Charge Today](#) (takechargetoday.arizona.edu) and the [Council for Economic Education](#) (econedlink.org/resources/collection/fffl-9-12). These real-world simulations will teach students how to budget, understand and build their credit scores, compare credit cards, analyze spending behaviors, and create financial goals using Mint.

TurboTax Simulation:

Gone are the days of filing taxes with pen and paper. With our new TurboTax simulations, students can practice filing taxes with one of our 5 pre-selected personas from any state.

QuickBooks Simulations

Whether you want to teach an entire accounting course, or just a module in your class, students have access to the number one small business accounting software. It's time to teach them practical skills they need to be workforce ready.

Opportunities and resources for teachers and students can be found on the Intuit Education website at <https://www.intuit.com/partners/education-program>.

To access the Mint and TurboTax Simulations, access is available through Intuit Education partner sites at the [Council for Economic Education](#) (econedlink.org/resources/collection/fffl-9-12) and [Take Charge Today](#) (takechargetoday.arizona.edu).

For QuickBooks simulations, please visit [Intuit Education](#) at intuit.com/partners/education-program.

For questions about Intuit Education offerings and programs, please contact Jared Davidove at education@intuit.com.

The 2020 Edition of One Montana's Teenpreneur Roundup Begins January 6

Submissions for One Montana's annual [Teenpreneur Roundup](#) begin January 6, 2020. The online competition allows students to submit innovative products or services that address problems in their lives, opportunities they see to improve their communities, or a profitable business they already operate.

To submit, students or student teams will create a video pitch and a business summary detailing their business. The video may not be longer than two-minutes and the summary must follow the provided One Montana template and contain no more than 1,000 words.

[Past pitches](#) and [business summaries](#) are available as examples. The window for submissions will be January 6-February 21, 2020.

Complete [Teenpreneur Roundup](#) details are available at onemontana.org/young-entrepreneurs/teenpreneur-roundup.

Questions can be directed to roundup@onemontana.org.

Negotiated Rulemaking Process, Comments, & Committees Meetings for New Standards Begins this Week

The Negotiated Rulemaking Committee portion of the Content Standards revision process began Monday, December 2, 2019. All meetings will be live streamed for those who cannot attend in person. Visit the [K-12 Content Standards & Revision](#) page on the OPI website for more information about the revision process.

The following committees for the listed standards will be meeting:

--Social Studies: Monday, December 2, 2019

--Career & Technical Education: Tuesday, December 3, 2019

--Computer Science, Library Media, and Technology: Thursday, December 5, 2019

Below are links to the Montana Administrative Register (MAR) Notices, Negotiated Rulemaking Committee agendas, current drafts of each set of proposed standards, and links to watch or listen to the Negotiated Rulemaking Committee meetings online via the Montana Public Access Network (MPAN).

If you have previously viewed and/or commented on past drafts of the proposed standards, you will notice the drafts look a bit different as changes reflect public comment, agency feedback, and the Superintendent's feedback and direction.

Public comment on the proposed standards are being collected through January 31, 2020.

MAR Notice - [Negotiated Rulemaking Committee for Computer Science, Library Media, and Technology](#)

--Meets December 5, 2019 in Helena, Montana, in Capitol Hearing Room 152

--[Draft Agenda](#)

--[Computer Science Standards Draft Document for Public Review](#)

--[Information Literacy/Library Media Standards Draft Document for Public Review](#)

--[Technology Integration Standards Draft Document for Public Review](#)

--[Watch or listen](#) to the negotiated rulemaking committee on MPAN

MAR Notice - [Negotiated Rulemaking Committee for CTE](#)

--Meets December 3, 2019 in Helena, Montana, in Capitol Hearing Room 152

--[Draft Agenda](#)

--[CTE Standards Draft Document for Public Review](#)

--[Watch or listen](#) on the negotiated rulemaking committee on MPAN

MAR Notice - [Negotiated Rulemaking Committee for Social Studies](#)

--Meets December 2, 2019 in Helena, MT in Capitol Hearing Room 152

--[Draft Agenda](#)

--[Social Studies Standards Draft Document for Public Review](#)

--[Watch or listen](#) to the negotiated rulemaking committee on MPAN

Additional meetings will be held in Helena at the Capitol January 8-10, and February 10-12, 2020.

Interested parties may submit their views and comments concerning the proposed negotiated rulemaking process to Colet Bartow, Director of Content Standards and Instruction, Office of Public Instruction, PO Box 202501, Helena, Montana 59620, faxed to 406.444.3924, or electronic mail to cbartow@mt.gov, no later than January 31, 2020.

[Creative Coding Resources for Hour of Code Available from Scratch](#)

Looking for creative coding activities for Hour of Code, December 9-15? Below you'll find three interactive tutorials to engage everyone from first timers to more experienced coders. Each tutorial begins with a brief intro video and step-by-step ideas to get students started.

[Imagine a World](#)

Imagine a World is a great introductory coding activity and comes with a set of [illustrated activity cards](#) to support learners and an [educator guide](#) to help jumpstart facilitation. Click here for a [Step-By-Step Tutorial](#).

[Coding a Cartoon](#)

This tutorial includes a starter project full of characters from Cartoon Network's Craig of the Creek. Learners can code them to jump, fly, and change size. Encourage students to add their own characters and take them on an adventure. Click here for a [Step-By-Step Tutorial](#).

[Talking Tales](#)

Talking Tales is a great activity for learners who want to continue creating with Text-to-Speech blocks. They'll code characters that talk aloud, travel to different scenes, and even answer questions. Click here for a [Step-By-Step Tutorial](#).

Make Time for Hour of Code 2019—December 9-15

The [Hour of Code](#) takes place each year during [Computer Science Education Week](#). The 2019 Computer Science Education Week will be December 9-15, but you can host an Hour of Code all year-round. Computer Science Education Week is held annually in recognition of the birthday of computing pioneer [Admiral Grace Murray Hopper](#) (December 9, 1906).

The [Hour of Code](#) (hourofcode.com/us) started as a one-hour introduction to computer science, designed to demystify "code", to show that anybody can learn the basics, and to broaden participation in the field of computer science. It has since become a worldwide effort to celebrate computer science, starting with 1-hour coding activities but expanding to all sorts of community efforts. This grassroots campaign is supported by over [400 partners](#) and 200,000 educators worldwide. Check out the [tutorials and activities](#).

[Code.org tutorials](#) work on all devices and browsers. You can see more information about Code.org's tutorial tech needs at code.org/educate/it. Tech needs for non-Code.org tutorials can be found on code.org/learn in the tutorial specific description. Do not forget [Hour of Code](#) also offers [unplugged activities](#) if your school or class cannot accommodate the tutorials!

Computers are everywhere, changing every industry on the planet. More than 100 million students have tried an Hour of Code. With the Hour of Code, computer science has been on homepages of Google, MSN, Yahoo!, and Disney. Over 100 partners have joined together to support this movement. Every Apple Store in the world has hosted an Hour of Code, and leaders like President Obama and Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau wrote their first lines of code as part of the campaign.

Learn more, sign up to host an event at your school, and get started at hourofcode.com/us.

New Hour of Code Tutorials, Webinar, and More from CodeHS

Hour of Code is a nationwide initiative by Computer Science Education Week (December 9-15, 2019) and Code.org to introduce millions of students to one hour of computer science and computer programming. Get started with your hour of code today on [CodeHS](#).

CodeHS has over [20 hour-long tutorials](#) for grades 6th-12th on topics including music, math, cryptocurrency, mobile apps, virtual reality, and more. This year, CodeHS launched 2 new tutorials on [Calculating Triangles](#) and [Exploring Genotypes](#) with code. All CodeHS tutorials can be explored at codehs.com/hourofcode.

Interested in running an Hour of Code at your school? Join the [CodeHS Hour of Code Webinar](#) on Thursday, November 21 at 2 p.m. MST to learn about the tutorials available and how to run an Hour of Code. RSVP at https://zoom.us/webinar/register/5815736049730/WN_Gy_DZLsCTH2sAt7URvRXDw to save your spot today.

Get highlighted by CodeHS. Share your #HourOfCode photos on social media by tagging [@CodeHS](#) and using the hashtags #CSEdWeek #ReadWriteCode..

2019 CTE Fall Data Collection Update—Reporting on Post-Graduation Status for Class of 2019 CTE Concentrators

The Fall 2018 CTE Data Collection began on October 1 and ends December 31, 2019. The Fall CTE Data Collection is a follow up to last year's Spring CTE Data Collection. Students identified as CTE Concentrators last year (2018-2019) and graduated in the spring of 2019 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 2018-2019 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: Fall CTE Data Collection](#)--are located in two places on the OPI website: on the AIM web page under the AIM User Guides button and also on the [CTE](#) web page at the '[Data Collections](#)' header under the [Fall CTE Data Collection](#) 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 15, 2019**, to be accurately reflected in federal reporting and used to compute Perkins Performance Indicators for your

Technical AIM questions regarding the Fall CTE Data Collection should be directed to the AIM Helpdesk at 1.877.424.6881 (toll-free) or email opiainhelp@mt.gov.

Questions regarding the Carl D. Perkins federal grant program data requirements should be directed to Ian Beagles, CTE/Perkins Data Control Specialist at 406.444.9019 or email ian.beagles@mt.gov.

AICPA Announces Regional APBP Accounting Trainings for 2020—Registrations Now Open

The American Institute of Certified Professional Accountants is happy to announce that there will be four (4) regional events in 2020 which include one first-time attendee training and three dual-track conferences for the Accounting Program to Bridge the Profession (APBP): Advanced Accounting program.

The schedule for the upcoming year is as follows:

Curriculum Only Training

The event teaches the APBP curriculum to first-time attendees. This event does not include implementation training for previous attendees; however, previous attendees are welcome to register as a refresher. This training, the [Mid-Atlantic Training](#), will be held February 17-19, 2020, in Durham, North Carolina. For details, please visit startheregoplaces.com/teacher/apbp-advanced-accounting/20200217-NC-Durham%2C_NC.

Dual Track (curriculum + implementation) Conferences

These events teach the APBP [curriculum](#) (startheregoplaces.com/teacher/apbp-advanced-accounting) to first-time attendees and implementation training for previous attendees. These conferences will be held in the Summer 2020.

--[South-Central Conference](#): June 23-25, 2020 - Dallas, Texas

--[North-Central Conference](#): July 8-10, 2020 - Waukee, Iowa

--[Northeast Conference](#): July 29-31, 2020 - Boston, Massachusetts

For the 2020 trainings, a registration fee for the trainings will be charged with the registration fee as follows:

---\$125 for registrations completed up to and including 60 days prior to the conference

--\$200 for registrations completed less than 60 days prior to the conference

Cancellation requests must be submitted to apbp@aicpa-cima.com at least 14 days prior to the event start date to be eligible for a full refund.

What does this registration fee include?

Registration includes breakfast, lunch and all training materials. Teachers leave with a desk copy of the APBP textbook; lesson plans and assignments; PowerPoint presentations; and pre-written exams with answer keys. Trained teachers also benefit from refresher videos and continuous support from the AICPA and APBP trainers.

Secure your spot early to take advantage of the best rate.

The AICPA knows your time is limited, so they are making it worth your while to tell your friends and peers about the program. From now until respective trainings begin, for each person who registers, attends and completes a training per your referral, the AICPA will send you a \$20 e-gift card. See official program rules [here](#).

To learn more about the APBP: Advanced Accounting program, please visit startheregoplaces.com/teacher/apbp-advanced-accounting.

Save the Date—Montana Financial Education Coalition 2020 Conference in Helena, Tuesday, February 25

The [Montana Financial Education Coalition](#) (MFEC) [2020 Conference](#) will be held on Tuesday, February 25 in Helena.

Every other year the MFEC hosts a financial education conference aimed at arming participants with knowledge, resources, and information to make sound financial decisions.

The 2020 Conference will be held at the Delta Hotels Helena Colonial.

Visit the MFEC Conference page at www.mtmfec.org/programs-and-initiatives/conference/ to sign up to get email updates for the conference.

While on the MFEC website, be sure to also check out the Teacher Spotlights for Montana Business Educators [Steve Klimkiewicz](#) (Hellgate High School), [Janelle Berry](#) (Skyview High School), & [Jill Page](#) (Glasgow High School).

Registration Now Open for 2020 Montana High School Mock Trial Competition Sponsored by Montana Bar Association

Through participation in the Montana High School Mock Trial Competition, students from all over Montana have a hands-on opportunity to examine the legal process and current legal issues, engage with local attorneys and the judicial branch of government, and develop important critical thinking, presentation, public speaking, and teamwork skills.

Students play the roles of attorneys, witnesses, timekeepers, and courtroom artists (optional). Students prepare both sides of the case. A student may be an attorney for one side and a witness for the other, or an attorney for both sides, or a witness for both sides. Timekeepers keep the competition rounds on schedule. Courtroom artists provide a visual record of the proceedings.

Teachers help recruit team members, handle team logistics, assist with fundraising, and partner with attorney coaches to prepare students for the competition.

Attorneys provide a lawyer's perspective on the case materials and work with the teams to learn trial practice skills and develop trial strategies.

Mock Trial Quick Facts:

- Open to grades 9 to 12
- Teams of 6 to 9 students
- Students can play the role of an attorney, a witness, or both!
- State competition in Helena
- Earn a chance to compete in the National High School Mock Trial Competition in Evansville, Indiana

Important Dates:

- October 1-January 31, 2019: Registration Open
- November, 2019: Case Materials Released
- March 7, 2020: State competition in Helena
- May 6-9, 2020: National Championship in Evansville, Indiana

Registration: For more information, including volunteer opportunities and to register a team, please visit the Montana High School Mock Trial Website www.mocktrial.montanabar.org. For questions, please email mocktrial@montanabar.org.

If you have questions about putting together a team, you can email Kacey Askin, Helena High School, at kaskin@helenaschools.org.

Fun Facts and Trivia

Lychee is tropical plant that belongs to the soapberry family.

Lychee is also known as "Chinese strawberry" because it originates from China and looks like strawberry.

Lychee originates from China where it has been cultivated for over 2,000 years.

Lychee is symbol of love and romance in China.

Lychee was favorite type of fruit of many Chinese emperors.

Lychee fruits are found in loose clusters ranging from 3-50 fruits which grow on a tree and the fruit is round to oval in shape.

Lychee skin resembles a bumpy leathery strawberry with short, conical or rounded protuberances.

The fruit skin color ranges from yellow to pinkish or red.

The edible portion of the fruit, the pulp is succulent, white and translucent.

Lychee fruits contain one shiny, dark brown seed.

Lychee fruit is grown in many sub-tropical areas such as Southeast China, India, Indonesia, Israel, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Myanmar, Pakistan, South Africa, Taiwan, Thailand, Vietnam, and in the U.S. in Florida, Hawaii, and California.

The fruit has a sweet, fragrant flavor and is delicious and the flavor is described as a cross between a pear and a grape with some distinct floral notes.

The lychee fruit has no cholesterol and is low in sodium and is a very good source of Vitamin C.

Lychee may be used in many different applications including ice cream, Jell-O, juice, soft drinks, nectar, jelly, gummy candies, fruit preserves, teas, health drinks, and yogurt.

Lychee requires cold weather during the winter for the successful development of flower buds and warm, moist weather with high temperatures during the summer for the production of fruit.

The Lychee tree is a medium-sized tree that can reach 40 to 50 feet in height

A lychee tree has a short trunk covered with smooth, grey or black bark and low spreading, brownish-red branches.

Lychee trees develops evergreen, shiny, leathery, green leaves composed of 2 to 4 thin leaflets arranged in pairs.

A lychee produces individual male and female flowers, meaning it's a monoecious plant, gathered in long terminal clusters composed of up to 3,000 flowers.

The lychee tree blooms from November to February in the northern hemisphere and from April to August in the southern hemisphere.

The flowers of the lychee are fragrant and they attract bees, who are the main pollinators of lychee.

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