

The Wednesday Reader

January 22, 2020

Montana Business Students Recognized in NGPF's PAYBACK Challenge

[Next Gen Personal Finance](#) (NGPF), a non-profit committed to ensuring that all students leave high school with the skills needed to thrive in an increasingly complex financial world, is pleased to announce [94 students](#) from across the nation have received an Honorable Mention Award in their third annual PAYBACK Challenge.

Two of the 94 students recognized include Montana students Haley Droogsma from Skyview High School (Janelle Berry, teacher) and Brooke Mehlhoff of Twin Bridges High School (Jody Sandru, teacher).

Over 900 students from all across the United States submitted essays earlier last fall. After playing the award-winning college finance game, [PAYBACK](#), students wrote a 250-word essay answering one of these questions:

Write a letter to your future self that you will open after your freshman year of college, reminding you of the key skills you will need to thrive during your college years.

OR

How could you use the online game, PAYBACK, to have a conversation with your parent/guardian about paying for college?

Teachers nominated the best student essay from their classes. The essays were judged based on the following criteria:

- Provides a complete and clear answer to the question
- Indicates an understanding of key concepts learned by playing the game PAYBACK
- Articulates thoughts in a creative manner

Each of the Honorable Mention winners will receive a \$500 award from NGPF to be used for educational purposes.

Congratulations Haley and Brooke.

To learn more about Next Gen Personal Finance, go to ngpf.org. To learn more about PAYBACK, or to play PAYBACK with your students, go to timeforpayback.com.

Seeking CTE Champions of Montana's Business and Marketing Education Programs—Yes, You

The Office of Public Instruction is seeking CTE Champions to be a part of a CTE Celebration video program.

OPI is looking for CTE teachers who are willing to be videoed as to their passion and purpose for Career and Technical Education and also for students of Montana's Career and Technical programs who are willing to share their CTE success stories or current engagement with the impact CTE has had on their lives and/or future career choices.

CTE Champion-type items could include a new course or project within your Business/Marketing program; sharing details about a recently completed event or project; information about a school-based enterprise or work-based learning opportunities; accomplishments of a Career & Technical Student Organization chapter or member(s); or any Business/Marketing teacher or student who just wants to share a great story and their passion.

All videoing will be done by OPI staff at your location; no travel is needed nor any equipment—OPI will come to you.

If you, your program, or any of your students are interested in participating, please let me know by Friday, January 24, 2020. If you have any questions about the above request, just shoot me an email (eswenosn@mt.gov).

AICPA Foundation High School Scholarship Now Accepting Applications

The [Association of International Certified Professional Accountants \(AICPA\) Foundation High School Scholarship](#) is excited to offer financial assistance to high school seniors who are attending an accredited two or four-year college or university in the fall and plan to major in accounting.

It's a chance for students to get some much needed financial aid and it's a chance for the accounting world to give its future CPA rock stars a warm welcome to an incredible career path.

To apply, student must have taken, or be taking, an a advanced accounting course taught by an APBP Advanced Accounting-trained educator.

Scholarships are in the amount of \$1000.00. Applications close March 1, 2020, at 3:00 pm EST.

Scholarship details, requirements, and the application are available at startheregoplaces.com/students/becoming-a-cpa/scholarship/aicpa-foundation-high-school-scholarship/.

OPI Data Request Regarding CTE Participants and Concentrators

Please share the information below with your school/district CTE and/or Perkins officials. The information below was sent out to CTE/Perkins officials last week, January 9.

In preparation for Perkins V, the Office of Public Instruction needs to collect information on CTE Participants and Concentrators for the 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 school years from all Montana Schools. The information requested is the LE Number for your school and the State ID for any student who was a CTE Participant. Please also include the CTE Concentrator information for the 2018-2019 school year to help ensure that the previously collected data on CTE Concentrators was accurate.

This information is necessary to establish a quality baseline for reporting student performance levels under Perkins V for the State of Montana. This information is also used to calculate the amount of money each school receives from Perkins. To facilitate this collection, a spreadsheet is provided on the [OPI-CTE webpage](#) under the yellow Data Collections box which contains the information and submission format required. The spreadsheet has separate tabs for each school year.

The form can also be downloaded directly at <http://opi.mt.gov/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=SQ9g8BI4S5s%3d&portalid=182>.

Please note that this information must be submitted by **January 31, 2020**. This information is federally required to establish baseline numbers as Montana continues to transition into Perkins V. Any school that has not submitted the requested data by January 31, 2020 will be contacted directly to determine any issues.

As directed by the Montana state authorized agency for Perkins, The Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education, failure to submit this information may result in the loss of Perkins funding.

A CTE Participant is defined as any student who took at least one (1) CTE class during their time in high school by the completion of the given school year.

A CTE Concentrator for the 2018-2019 school year was defined as any student who has taken three (3) or more CTE credits by the completion of the given school year.

Please submit the data in the supplied spreadsheet to Ian Beagles at ian.beagles@mt.gov using the ePass Montana File Transfer Service at [ePass Montana](#).

For questions regarding the data collection, data submission, or data format please contact Ian Beagles at 406.444.9019 and ian.beagles@mt.gov. For other questions regarding this request, please contact Jule Walker at 406.444.7325 and jule.walker@mt.gov or Jason Butcher at 406.444.3449 and jason.butcher@mt.gov.

Celebrate the 25th Anniversary & Register Today for the 2020 Montana Economics Challenge in Helena, March 2

[Registration](#) is now open for the [25th Montana Economics Challenge](#) to be held in Helena on Monday, March 2. The registration deadline is February 7 and can be completed online at councilforeconed.org/register.

The Helena Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis and the Montana Council on Economic Education are pleased to partner for the 25th Annual Montana Economics Challenge.

Montana high school teachers are invited to incorporate economic learning in their classrooms and assemble teams to compete in a challenging array of tests covering concepts, issues and reasoning.

Compete in teams of 3 or 4 students through written tests taken individually in micro and macroeconomics and as a team in international economics. Top two teams in each division square off in live Quiz Bowl rounds.

The [2020 Montana Economics Challenge](#) will feature two divisions: (1) the David Ricardo division for students enrolled in one semester or less in non-AP level economics and/or first-time Economics Challenge participants; and (2) the Adam Smith division for students enrolled in a two-semester class or in AP economics classes and/or those previously participating in the Montana Economics Challenge.

Awards for each division include a trophy for each of the top 3 teams and a trophy and cash for each of the top 3 individuals in each division—1st place: \$100; 2nd place: \$50; and 3rd place: \$25. The Quiz Bowl winners will take home the traveling trophy.

Sponsors cover all costs associated with participation, include substitutes.

For more information or for questions, please contact Rhonda Krieger at 800.823.4333 ext 447-3864 or via email at Helena.MTChallenge@mpls.frb.org.

Schedule of Events

Sunday, March 1, 2020

--Pizza Party: Meet other competitors while you enjoy pizza, drinks, dessert and interactive games; Federal Reserve Bank

Monday, March 2, 2020

--Montana Economics Challenge Event, 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.; Delta Hotels Colonial Inn

--Teacher course offering while students take written tests at the event; earn 1 OPI renewal unit

Wednesday, April 15, 2020

--National Semi-Finals

Saturday-Monday, May 16-18, 2020

--National Finals

Resources Available For Study

MCEE

--Sixteen Economic Learning Modules (ELM) are available: <http://www.econedmontana.org/resources.html>

Council For Economic Education (www.councilforeconed.org)

--Lessons and resources on economics and personal finance: <http://councilforeconed.org/resources/econedlink/>

--National Economics Challenge web page: <http://www.councilforeconed.org/events/national-economics-challenge/>

--Sample Economics Challenge Tests: <http://councilforeconed.org/sample-tests/>

Federal Reserve Bank

--Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis Community and Education web page: www.minneapolisfed.org/community

--Federal Reserve System's interactive site: www.federalreserveeducation.org

Grades 6-12 Teacher Research Opportunity with Stipend

MSU Bozeman & West Region Transportation workforce are offering a 3-credit research course for educators.

Applications are open until February 7, 2020. The research experience for CTE, science, post-secondary and 6-12 Teachers in Innovative Transportation takes place from June 22-July 31, 2020 at MSU Bozeman. The research opportunity includes a \$6,000.00 stipend and all travel expenses are reimbursed.

Learn more at [Innovative Transportation Systems](#) and complete your [application](#) soon.

Registration is Now Open for the CSTA 2020 Annual Conference in Arlington, VA

[Registration](#) is now open for the Computer Science Teachers Association's 2020 Annual Conference, set for July 11–15, in Arlington, Virginia.

The three-day conference has over 100 sessions of education to broaden your knowledge of computer science education, inspirational keynotes and sessions to reinvigorate your passion for teaching, and countless moments of fun and connection along the way.

Join CSTA in celebrating the 20th anniversary of the conference—you do not want to miss out on this great experience.

For complete conference details, and to register, please visit www.cvent.com/events/2020-csta-annual-conference/event-summary-236d288a403041f8a7a935b0bd74131c.aspx.

To learn more about CSTA and sign up for free membership, go to csteachers.org.

40 Sites & Apps for Teaching Kids to Program or Code

With so many STEM-related career opportunities in the 21st century, it's no wonder that STEM topics are considered a key part of learning in today's classrooms; Because of this, more and more students are learning coding and programming earlier than ever before.

Fortunately, there are many cutting-edge web tools and apps that help teachers teach, and students learn, coding and programming skills.

Use the following link to access an alphabetical listing of some of the best resources for students and teacher to learn how to program and code: techlearning.com/tl-advisor-blog/30-sites-apps-for-learning-to-program-or-code.

Banzai: Experience-Based Learning for Financial Literacy Instruction

[Banzai](http://teachbanzai.com) (teachbanzai.com) is a platform for online financial literacy used by more than 60,000 teachers throughout the United States, thanks to the sponsorship of 800 banks and credit unions. K–12 students learn through trial and error with Banzai simulation games, preparing for adult life. Teachers use Banzai for its comprehensive curriculum, ease of use, and engaging teaching style. Watch this [video](#) to get a quick idea of what we're all about.

The bedrock of Banzai is the **free** simulation courses: [Junior](#) (ages 8 to 12), [Teen](#) (ages 13 to 18), and [Plus](#) (ages 16 and up). All three courses play sort of like the Oregon Trail game. Players can go back and review their decisions, replay to get a different outcome, and experience the consequences of financial decisions, all while saving toward a goal.

[Junior](#) players run a lemonade stand and have to navigate inventory, income, budgeting, and the money decisions that go along with being a kid trying to have fun.

[Teen](#) players learn what it's like to have full-time wages while trying to save for college registration.

[Plus](#) players learn to protect their credit score while saving toward a down payment for a home.

All three courses teach kids to expect trade-offs with each decision, plan for the future, and budget wisely. Banzai is also available in Spanish.

Teachers who want to keep the conversation going can order from among three booklets **for free** that supplement the simulation courses, shipped right to their classroom. The [Junior Activity Kit](#) has a fun card game, crossword puzzle, and prompt for interviewing an adult about personal finance. The [Teen](#) and [Plus Workbooks](#) challenge students' comprehension skills, problem solving, application, writing, and vocab skills too.

Banzai offers easy grading. The teacher interface [automatically grades](#) all pre- and post-tests and tracks students' decisions and progress throughout the game. Teachers get to add as many classes as they want, and all student info is protected, as our software complies with the highest privacy standards, COPPA and FERPA.

Teachers also have complete access to the Banzai [Wellness Center](#), a central repository of detailed articles on personal finance, robust financial calculators, and a virtual financial adviser called the [Banzai Coach](#). Many middle- and high-school teachers will find that this resource is a great supplement (even a centerpiece) for financial curriculum. The topics are far ranging and geared toward adults, which reinforces the real-world nature of their educational value.

High School Sophomores Interested in Aerospace Needed

[Western Aerospace Scholar program \(https://www.museumofflight.org/WAS\)](https://www.museumofflight.org/WAS) sign up is underway.

High School sophomores take the first phase of this program, an online course over a couple of months, and after passing this course they experience phase two, which is a three-day camp at the Montana Learning Center on Canyon Ferry Lake.

Students explore engineering programs, talk with and tour the Boeing facility, and join a team to get to Mars.

To learn more, visit [museumofflight.org/WAS](https://www.museumofflight.org/WAS). Complete details for Montana sophomores is available at [museumofflight.org/Education/Explore-programs/Montana-Aerospace-Scholars](https://www.museumofflight.org/Education/Explore-programs/Montana-Aerospace-Scholars).

Registration Open for Montana Financial Education Coalition 2020 Conference in Helena, Tuesday, February 25

Registration is now open for the [Montana Financial Education Coalition](#) (MFEC) [2020 Conference](#) in Helena on Tuesday, February 25, at the Delta Hotels Helena Colonial.

For participants in K-12 and College classrooms, a FREE, ZERO COST option is offered specifically for students (high school or college) OR K-12 and college teachers/faculty.

Registration information is available at [mtmfec.org/register-now-for-the-2020-conference](https://www.mtmfec.org/register-now-for-the-2020-conference) and can be completed and submitted online.

If lodging is needed, rooms can be booked at \$101.00 plus taxes by calling the Delta Hotels Helena Colonial at 406.443.2100 or online at https://www.marriott.com/meeting-event-hotels/group-corporate-travel/groupCorp.mi?resLinkData=MT%20Financial%20Education%20Coalition%5EHLNDE%60ECOECOB%60101.00%60USD%60false%601%602/24/20%602/25/20%6001/24/20&app=resvlink&stop_mobi=yes.

Visit the MFEC Conference page at www.mtmfec.org/programs-and-initiatives/conference/ for additional details and a schedule of the day.

Free Professional Development Courses on OPI Learning Hub & Begin the New Year Earning OPI Renewal Units

The Teacher Learning Hub offers several courses to help you prepare students to navigate difficult topics, including those ripped from headlines and grounded in issues related to civic engagement.

[Using Writing to Teach Critical Thinking](#)—This self-paced course is designed to help you support your students in developing as thinkers through questioning techniques and writing. (1 OPI Renewal Unit)

[Digital Citizenship](#)—This course is a self-paced introduction to what is needed to foster students' safe, ethical, and responsible uses of technology. (2 OPI Renewal Units)

[Integrating Journalism in Your Classroom](#)—The goal of this self-paced course is to expand student knowledge on spotting reliable sources & how to use sources responsibly. (1 OPI Renewal Unit)

It hardly seems possible but registration opens soon for several facilitated courses that will begin this month; do not let time get away from you. Reserve your spot now. Here are some that are available:

[STREAM: Transformations and Proofs \(HS\)](#)—Learn this Common Core-inspired change in the approach to teaching congruence, proofs, and transformations. (15 OPI Renewal Units. Registration now open.)

[Student Created Digital Portfolios](#)—Get started using electronic portfolios in your classroom and for professional learning. (15 OPI Renewal Units. Registration now open.)

[Google Suite Advanced](#)—This course will dive beyond the basics into Google Drive & Docs, Slides, Spreadsheets and Forms, among others. (20 OPI Renewal Units. Registration now open.)

In Montana, all public schools are required to put measures into place to address and discourage bullying. That's why the course [Building Respect: Bullying Prevention in Schools exists](#). This self-paced course is by Kognito, the same creators that bring you the popular simulation format of the At-Risk Mental Health and Suicide Prevention courses and others. It is for all educators and is worth one (1) OPI Renewal Unit.

The Stock Market Game—Spring 2020 Semester Registration Now Open

The [Montana Council on Economic Education \(econedmontana.org\)](#) invites you and your students to participate in the Spring 2020 edition of [The Stock Market Game \(stockmarketgame.org\)](#). The Spring 2020 competition will be held February 17-April 24, 2020.

The Stock Market Game is a ten-week simulation in which students are given a hypothetical \$100,000 to invest in the stock market. Students must have at least five separate stocks and/or mutual funds at the end of the simulation, so research and diversification are crucial for success.

The top three student teams are presented with awards with \$200 for 1st Place, \$150 for 2nd Place, and \$100 for 3rd Place.

To learn more about [The Stock Market Game](#) and to register your team(s), please visit [stockmarketgame.org](#). If you have questions, please contact Montana Council for Economic Education Executive Director Dax Schieffer at mcee@montana.edu.

The 2020 Edition of One Montana's Teenpreneur Roundup Now Open for Submissions

Submissions for One Montana's annual [Teenpreneur Roundup](#) began on Monday, 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 is open from January 6 thru February 21, 2020.

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

Questions can be directed to roundup@onemontana.org.

Business Educator Seeking Information and Resources for Job Shadow Implementation

Jeannette Barreto at Hardin High School is looking for schools that have implemented job shadowing programs and if they are willing to share their knowledge and possible resources as Hardin is looking at starting a program.

If you have or now someone within your school or district who could share information, please contact Jeannette at jeannette.barreto@hardin.k12.mt.us.

NBEA 2020 Convention—April 7-11 in Boston

The [National Business Education Association](#) (NBEA) returns to Boston for the [NBEA 2020 Annual Convention](#), April 7-11, 2020. The Boston Marriott Copley Place, located in Boston's Back Bay area, will serve as the location for the NBEA 2020 Convention. World-famous shopping, dining, museums, and historical attractions await you, so plan to come early and stay late so you can experience all that Boston has to offer. This year also marks the 400th anniversary of the Mayflower Voyage and the founding of Plymouth Colony.

Early-bird registration is available through March 18, 2020, for \$295 for NBEA members. Rooms at the Boston Marriott Copley Place are available at \$169/night for singles and \$189/night for doubles.

Check out the [NBEA 2020 Annual Convention](#) website at nbea.org/newsite/conferences/convention/convention.html for complete convention details including links for convention registration, hotel reservations, and convention schedule.

OPI Now Gathering Input on Economic Impact of New CTE and Computer Science Standards

As part of the negotiated rulemaking and standards adoption process, the Office of Public Instruction has now opened surveys to gather feedback and input regarding the drafts of the new [Career and Technical Education Standards](#) and [Computer Science Standards](#).

For Career and Technical Education, a copy of the [Career and Technical Education Standards Draft Document for Economic Impact Survey and Public Comment](#) is available for review at opi.mt.gov/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=y4AgEuvcF2E%3d&portalid=182. The [Economic Impact Survey](#) can be completed at docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdAIWHnmrxg84YEGk58xkdyMDhfQ9SWen3ZX7s-VnYeuK6xpQ/viewform.

The Career and Technical Education [Economic Impact Survey](#) contains 42 questions with nine (9) required responses and 33 optional responses. The survey will take approximately 15 minutes to review the proposed standards and 20 minutes to complete the survey. The survey is due by midnight on January 31, 2020. To preview the questions and to assist in gathering information for the survey [download this WORKSHEET](#).

For Computer Science, a copy of the [Computer Science Standards Draft Document for Economic Impact Survey and Public Comment](#) is available for review at opi.mt.gov/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=Z_veTKM99kI%3d&portalid=182. The [Economic Impact Survey](#) can be completed at docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeCGTrkAJbOJJRIWnkpXp6Pvipbrvs_Fj84-plZrKX5w04Gw/viewform.

The Computer Science [Economic Impact Survey](#) contains 33 questions with eight (8) required responses and 25 optional responses. The survey will take approximately 15 minutes to review the proposed standards and 20 minutes to complete the survey. The survey is due by midnight on January 31, 2020. To preview the questions and to assist in gathering information for the survey [download this WORKSHEET](#).

The Office of Public Instruction must utilize a negotiated rulemaking committee to consider proposed changes to accreditation standards (including content standards). In addition to the negotiated rulemaking committee requirement, the OPI is charged with writing an economic impact analysis in accordance with MCA 2-4-405. In order to carefully prepare the economic impact analysis, the OPI would appreciate your responses to the questions in this survey. We recommend a review of current expenditures for personnel, instructional materials, professional development, and curriculum development for the social studies content and program standards before responding to the questions. If adopted by the Board of Public Education, new standards would go into effect on July 1, 2021.

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, P.O. Box 202501, Helena, Montana 59620; via fax at 406.444.3924, or by electronic mail to cbartow@mt.gov no later than January 31, 2020.

Opportunity Knocks! Scholarship Applications are Now Open for the AICPA Foundation High School Scholarship

The AICPA Foundation deploys over \$600,000 in scholarships each year to accounting students and future CPAs. High school students who have taken an accounting class with an [APBP-training educator](#) are invited to apply for the [AICPA Foundation High School Scholarship](#) for the opportunity to receive \$1,000 toward their first year of college.

Find out more information about the scholarship, please visit the [AICPA Foundation High School Scholarship](#) page at <https://www.startheregoplaces.com/students/becoming-a-cpa/scholarship/aicpa-foundation-high-school-scholarship/>.

Do you teach accounting and are interested in becoming an [Accounting Program to Build the Profession \(APBP\)](#)-trained educator? Learn more and register for a 2020 conference at <https://www.startheregoplaces.com/teacher/apbp-advanced-accounting/>.

A New Classroom Activity from Start Here. Go Places.®--The Adviser: Sweater Weather

[Start Here. Go Places.®](#) from the AICPA announces this month's edition of The Adviser. [The Adviser](#) (www.startheregoplaces.com/teacher/classroom-resources) is a monthly activity where students take on the role of an accounting adviser. Each month, your students will accept a challenge from a local business who needs accounting help. Through a variety of individual and team exercises, your students will learn and incorporate both technical accounting concepts and soft skills needed to be successful.

This month, with [Sweater Weather](#), your students will tackle the concepts of supply and demand through a fun, engaging activity. SubZero, a popular local clothing store, needs help with pricing their new line of holiday sweaters. It's up to your students to help design a sweater concept, run market research with their classmates, and suggest a selling price for SubZero to receive the highest monetary profit.

To download this month's activity, visit the [Sweater Weather](#) page at www.startheregoplaces.com/teacher/classroom-resources/adviser-sweater-weather.

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.

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.

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:

--Computer Science, Library Media, and Technology: Friday, January 10, 2020

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](#)

--[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](#)

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

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

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

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

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.

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

The word pomegranate means apple with many seeds in medieval Latin.

Pomegranates belong to the berry family.

Pomegranates are native to the Middle East.

Pomegranate remains dating back to 1000 BC have been found in Transcaucasia (present day Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia).

Every October, the Pomegranate Festival is held in Goychay, Azerbaijan.

In the United States, Pomegranates grown are typically in season from September to December.

Pomegranates can be stored up to 2 months in the refrigerator.

Pomegranate trees grow in hot and dry climates.

India is the world's largest producer of pomegranates.

Pomegranate trees can live for over 200 years.

Pomegranate shrubs grow 20 to 33 feet in height and have multiple spiny branches.

The pomegranate was introduced to California by Spanish settlers in 1769.

Thomas Jefferson planted pomegranates at Monticello in 1771.

The French term for pomegranate, "grenade," has given its name to the military grenade.

In early English, the pomegranate was called the "apple of Grenada."

The juice of Pomegranate is also the source of grenadine syrup, used in flavorings and liqueurs.

The juice of Pomegranate is also the source of grenadine syrup, used in flavorings and liqueurs.

In the Qur'an, pomegranates are named as one of the fruits that will grow in the gardens of paradise.

In Greece, a traditional housewarming gift is a pomegranate placed under or near the home altar of the house in order to bring good luck, fertility, and abundance.

In Ancient Greek mythology, the pomegranate was also known as the "fruit of the dead".

In Hinduism, the pomegranate symbolizes prosperity and fertility.

Pomegranates do not contain cholesterol or saturated fats.

The pomegranate contains lots of vitamins such as Vitamin A, C, E, K, and B5.

The pomegranate has antioxidant, anti-viral, and anti-tumor properties as well as folic acid.

The strong antioxidant and anti-inflammatory properties of pomegranate can help protect skin against sun-induced damage.

The city of Granada, Spain is named after the Spanish word for pomegranate, "Granada."

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