

## ***The Wednesday Reader*** ***September 23, 2020***

Please note, the Wednesday Reader will be going on Fall Break for the next two weeks—September 30 & October 7—as I will be out of the remote office September 28-30 & October 7-12.

### **Montana ACTE Virtual Fall Institute—Early-Bird Registration Ends Today, Wednesday, September 23**

Montana ACTE invites you to participate in their Virtual CTE Conference taking place on October 15-16. [Registration](#) is now open. Take advantage of the Early-Bird discount and register by September 23.

The theme of the Institute, “*Cultivating Connections Through CTE*”, will focus on best practices and current “hot topics” for CTE. Engage in virtual interactions and sessions covering high-quality CTE and remote and blended learning environments.

Session topics include:

- CTE Panel - CTE’s Role in the Future of Work
- Keynote Presenter, Megan Pollock, The Power of Micromessages as a Tool for Student Success
- Montana Two Year Colleges - Montana’s High Wage/High Demand Opportunities
- Work Based Learning Best Practices
- Literacy-in-CTE
- Math in CTE
- State of Montana CTE
- A Teacher’s Guide to Facilitating Online Learning
- Youth Entrepreneurs - Montana Showcase
- CTE Best Practices Roundtables
- Virtual Happy Hour
- And more

Click [here to register](#) and view sessions and presenters for this event and take advantage of the early-bird discount. The member early-bird registration rate is \$85 and \$40 for first-time & retired attendees.

Join Montana ACTE in this Virtual Conference and take advantage of CTE Best Practice sessions from the comfort of your office or home.

### **Montana Business Education Association Virtual Business Meeting—October 16**

The [Montana Business Education Association](#)’s annual Business Meeting is scheduled for Friday, October 16 at 2 pm, and the association is offering a gift to each attendee as well as door prize drawings.

MBEA is looking for someone to come on board as the new Vice President and as Secretary.

A stipend from MBEA is available for first-time Fall Institute attendees, and the link to the application form is available at <https://forms.gle/TSpnFeN3JE2YfJch9>.

For questions or for more information, please contact MBEA President-Elect Mandy Wichman at [mandy.wichman@hobson.k12.mt.us](mailto:mandy.wichman@hobson.k12.mt.us).

### **Montana Business Education Association Accepting Nominations for Awards—Honor & Recognize Your Colleagues**

The [Montana Business Education Association](#) (MBEA) is now seeking nominations for its 2020 awards program.

Nominations can be submitted for

- Outstanding New Teacher of the Year
- Outstanding Business Teacher of the Year
- Distinguished Service Award
- Lifetime Achievement Award (ACTE)

Nominations can be submitted to MBEA Past President Calie Wineinger using the online nominations form at <https://forms.gle/5XHWGA2pd8soqm4r5>. The deadline for nominations is Friday, October 9.

For questions regarding the MBEA Awards program, please contact MBEA Past President Calie Wineinger at [cwineinger@froidschool.com](mailto:cwineinger@froidschool.com).

### **Stock Market Game Fees Waived this Year! Registration Open and Game Begins October 12.**

Great news from the [Montana Council on Economic Education](#) (MCEE)—over the summer Glacier Bancorp (GBCI) and its Montana family of banks have offered to cover the team fees for the [Stock Market Game](#).

When the schools shifted to remote learning last spring, MCEE noticed their programs that already lived online were the most utilized by students with the encouragement of teachers. With the uncertainty being faced rolling into this semester, bringing new partners to support successful games like the Stock Market really helps MCEE to meet their mission to improve economic and financial literacy for Montana's youth.

Not only will the team fees be waived, but GBCI will be funding the cash team prizes too. For schools participating in the many areas of Montana that GBCI has a bank, MCEE can coordinate classroom visits with financial leaders.

[Registration](#) is now open. The [Stock Market Game](#) has shifted to a 9-week program that will start October 12 and will run to December 11, 2020. For teachers who are not familiar with simulation, the Stock Market Game has increased its resources to assist students and teachers maximize their experience.

You can learn more and register at [stockmarketgame.org](http://stockmarketgame.org),

### **Taking Take Charge Today Lessons Online Webinar Today, September 23, at 4:30 pm**

[Take Charge Today](#) presents *Taking TCT Lessons Online* this afternoon (Wednesday, September 23) at 4:30 pm (MDT). Explore the tools that Take Charge Today has to help you with your virtual classroom. This includes Student Workbook files all being converted to Google Slides to be compatible with Google Classroom and Canvas.

Join the webinar via Zoom at <https://arizona.zoom.us/j/95460395988>, Password: 037629.

See below for the remainder of Take Charge Today's fall series going through the Intuit Education Simulations paired with TCT lessons.

- Comparing Savings Accounts: Wednesday, October 7, 4:30 pm (MDT)
- Credit Reports and Scores: Wednesday, October 21, 4:30 pm (MDT)
- Evaluating Credit Card Offers: Wednesday, November 4, 4:30 pm (MDT)

To learn more about the upcoming webinars and the Take Charge Today curriculum, please visit [takechargetoday.arizona.edu](http://takechargetoday.arizona.edu).

### **Reframing Career Readiness for Middle School On-Demand Webinar**

What does it mean to prepare students for a changing workforce? Watch & listen to the conversations with host and [EVERFI](#) implementation manager, Lauren Pingul, along with Dr. Dan Zapp, a senior researcher from EVERFI, as well as Gianna Gurga and Nicole Albion, educators and administrators who work with middle school students. They will dive into employability skills that will translate to careers of the future—regardless of if they exist yet—and how best to bring them to your students in a way that is meaningful and authentic.

Attendees will receive: A certificate for 1 hour of professional development + Free access to FutureSmart<sup>SM</sup>. [Click here to access the webinar recording](#).

### **Recharge and Expand Your Curriculum with Youth Entrepreneurs and YE Academy**

Educators feed off the energy they get back from their students. Like the battery in a car, they are charged with the same engine to which their charge provides spark. It is an important and virtuous cycle; and like that car battery, sometimes they give more

energy than they get back. This year will almost certainly require that sort of imbalance. [Youth Entrepreneurs](#) (YE) is here for them, cables in hand, ready to give them a jump.

That's why YE has chosen 2020 to host their inaugural REcharge virtual event. This day-long, engaging event is built to let educators relax, fill up their hearts, and recharge their battery in preparation for the second half of the year.

REcharge will be held virtually on December 5, with multiple session tracks and dynamic keynote speakers. If you'd like to join YE and REcharge, please reach out to [hello@youthentrepreneurs.org](mailto:hello@youthentrepreneurs.org).

The power of the YE program is that it can begin to propel itself. Innovative educators, empowered to build new learning experiences. Passionate ambassadors, embraced by their tribe, advocating for Youth Entrepreneurs in other classrooms, schools, and districts. This program fills a void in education evidenced by the fire we see lit in our educators.

In 2020, YE leaned into that fire further. They have challenged their educators to help build the program. The first activity-design sprint contest during YEedu this summer rewarded three great educators with cash prizes for helping to develop even better virtual activities for those working through distance learning right now.

The new activities are live on YE's Teach Everywhere virtual learning website and being deployed in classrooms nationwide. It's truly inspiring to see what these innovators can do when freed from the chains of traditional methodologies.

Youth Entrepreneurs, [yeacadamey.org](http://yeacadamey.org), offers free, hands-on, entrepreneurship education curriculum. To learn more and to sign up for a free account, please visit [yeacademy.org](http://yeacademy.org).

### **NCWIT High School Girls Contest Now Accepting Application from Montana Students**

For a number of years, the National Center for Women and Information Technology (NCWIT) 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 ninth year that there also will be a Montana contest for Montana girls. The time to submit applications is September 1-November 5 and the application is found at [www.aspirations.org/participate/high-school](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 online application and get a parent and a school official to approve it to be entered into both the national and Montana contests.

There have had winners from high schools in Absarokee, Anaconda, Arlee, Beaverhead, Billings West, Bozeman, Bozeman Petra, Broadwater, Butte, Cascade, Cut Bank, Great Fall High, Hamilton, Helena Capital, Helena High, Hobson, Jefferson High, Libby, Missoula Big Sky, Missoula Hellgate, Missoula Sentinel, Noxon, Park County, Red Lodge, Seeley-Swan, Sidney, Simms and Whitefish High Schools.

The NCWIT is 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.

For questions about NCWIT or the application process, please contact Steve Harper at Carroll College at [sharper@carroll.edu](mailto:sharper@carroll.edu).

### **Montana High School Business Challenge Launches as Big Sky Biz Sim this Semester**

The [Montana Council on Economic Education](#) (MCEE) has been busy over the summer to transform the former High School Business Challenge to a web-based online portal to modernize the experience for teachers. One valuable new feature, students can submit their inputs directly from their own computer. With all of the changes, MCEE is launching the new program as the Big Sky Biz Sim by First Interstate Bank.

These leaps are all made possible by the generous support from the team at First Interstate Bank. MCEE shared last year that the founding sponsors of the HSBC were shifting their focus which put the program in jeopardy of leaving the classroom.

If teachers have taught with the High School Business Challenge before, the program, terms and learning principles will remain the same; MCEE did not add any new inputs and the will maintain the mini-cases.

The sponsors at First Interstate Bank also will be supporting cash prizes for the winning teams. Another bonus with the support is that we are going to waive all team fees this year to encourage more participation and remove any barriers for schools to introduce these business concepts into the classroom.

Check out the new site, [econedmontana.org/big-sky-biz-sim-by-first-interstate-bank](http://econedmontana.org/big-sky-biz-sim-by-first-interstate-bank), registration is open and MCEE will be assigning teams into industries later this month.

The first day that inputs will be due will be Wednesday, October 7, 2020.

For questions about Big Sky Biz Sim by First Interstate Bank, contact Dax Schieffer at [mcee@montana.edu](mailto:mcee@montana.edu).

### **The ISTE20 Live Program is Now Available—Check it out; Register for ISTE20 Today**

[ISTE20 Live](#): Reinventing Education Together will be held November 29-December 5, 2020. The virtual conference will have over 600 sessions specifically selected by our panel of experts to help you teach this year in any and all formats.

The custom online experience will be unlike any virtual conference or training you've attended before—it is immersive, interactive, and will make connecting with presenters and seeing product demos fantastically easy and informative. And, you will have the option to learn in Theater Sessions, Interactive Creation Labs and quick session formats like Ignites, Lightning Talks and Snapshots.

View the ISTE20 Live program at [conference.iste.org/2020/program/overview.php](http://conference.iste.org/2020/program/overview.php).

Registration for ISTE20 can be completed at [conference.iste.org/2020/index.php#rates\\_section](http://conference.iste.org/2020/index.php#rates_section); the last day to catch the early-bird rate of \$195 is October 1.

Mark your calendars for [ISTE21](#): Designing a New Learning Landscape, June 27-30, in San Antonio.

### **Register for Free: Adobe MAX—The Creativity Conference, October 20–22**

Join Adobe for a free virtual event unlike any other. Learn from education leaders who are engaging students in the classroom and beyond, and gain insights into their best practices for distance learning.

[Adobe MAX](#)—The Creativity Conference will be held virtually this year, October 20-22, and all can attend for FREE, an over \$1500 value.

[Adobe Max 2020](#) will feature over 350 session across 10 tracks with world-wide speakers.

Visit [max.adobe.com](http://max.adobe.com) today for more details and to complete your FREE registration. Registration requires a free Adobe ID account. If you do not have an Adobe ID, you can [create your account](#) today for free.

### **National Standards for Business Education 2020 Released & Available on NBEA Website**

Business education is changing faster than ever. Is your curriculum keeping up? Find out with a copy of the new [2020 Standards for Business Education](#) ([nbea.org/page/BusinessEdStandards](http://nbea.org/page/BusinessEdStandards)). The digital edition is available to NBEA members for no additional cost in NBEA's Business Education online [library](#). Hard-copies are also available in the NBEA online [store](#).

[NBEA](#) developed this *fifth edition* of the National Standards for Business Education. The standards, first published in 1995 at the request of business educators throughout the country, was then, and is today, at the leading edge of business and career education. Preparing students for the workplace demands a dynamic curriculum—perhaps more dynamic than any other academic discipline. The workplace undergoes constant change. Tomorrow's challenges cannot be met using yesterday's skills. Numerous business educators and business professionals volunteered their time and expertise to review and revise these standards for what students should know and be able to do in business. These educators, who represent their colleagues at all instructional levels, believe strongly in the importance of the standards and consider them a major contribution to the improvement of both personal and career directed education.

The [National Standards for Business Education](#) are based on a comprehensive curriculum model that integrates ten content areas including: accounting business law, career development communication, economics/personal finance, entrepreneurship, information technology, international business, management, and marketing.

Visit [nbea.org/page/BusinessEdStandards](http://nbea.org/page/BusinessEdStandards) to download or purchase a copy of the new standards. To download, you will need to be a member and have/create a NBEA profile.

### **Council for Economic Education Financial Literacy & Economic Education Conference—September 30-October 2**

The [Council for Economic Education](#) knows you're busy figuring out the start of school, but they hope you'll take a few hours this fall for your own professional development.

This year, the [CEE's Financial Literacy & Economic Education Conference](#) is going virtual and it will provide you the tools to bring personal finance and economic education into your classroom with confidence. The virtual conference will be held September 30-October 2, 2020.

#### Conference Highlights:

Tailored and Topical Subjects: From teachers who want to introduce kindergartners to the concepts of making, growing, and saving money, to teachers of AP Economics, CEE has programming for classes and coursework at every level.

50 Unique Sessions: Choose from a variety of subjects over the course of three afternoons to learn practical tips and engaging ways of incorporating financial literacy and economics into your curriculum.

Connect with Peers: Share your expertise and learn what's working (and what isn't) from your fellow educators. And hear our inspiring keynote speakers talk about their work in economics and personal finance.

Invest in Your Career: These sessions will remain available to you for the whole school year and can count toward your state required continuing education credits.

#### Something for Every Educator—Check Out the Sessions

- Avocados, Toothpaste, Trumpets! Teach Families Financial Literacy Through Children's Novels
- Fun Formative Assessments: Econ Style!
- Gamifying Personal Finance Using the NGPF Arcade
- Award-Winning Teachers Share Best Practices
- Lessons on Globalization, Robots, and You!
- Implementing a K-12 Financial Literacy Initiative in Your District or School
- Non-Traditional Technological Approaches for Youth Financial Education
- Decisionomics: Infuse Economic Decision-Making into Elementary Mathematics
- The Tools of Monetary Policy Have Changed. Has Your Instruction?
- Pint-Sized Savers: Financial Literacy for Kids!

For complete conference details, including registration, please visit [councilforeconed.pathable.co](http://councilforeconed.pathable.co). Registration is now open; the registration fee is \$99.00.

### **Registration is Now Open for the 2020 NICE K12 Virtual Cybersecurity Education Conference**

The National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education (NICE) and iKeepSafe are happy to announce that [Early Bird Registration](#) pricing for the [2020 NICE K12 Cybersecurity Education Conference](#) is NOW OPEN.

The [2020 NICE K12 VIRTUAL Cybersecurity Education Conference](#) takes place December 7-8, 2020. Pre-Conference Workshops will take place on December 5-6.

This year's event will provide education and learning tools that educators and schools can use immediately. You can access it all from the convenience of your home or office.

The [2020 NICE K12 VIRTUAL Cybersecurity Education Conference](#) will be jam-packed with keynote speakers, presentations, panels, and break-out sessions covering five tracks:

- Increasing Cybersecurity Career Awareness
- Infusing Cybersecurity Across the Educational Portfolio
- Integrating Innovative Cybersecurity Educational Approaches
- Designing Cybersecurity Academic & Career Pathways
- Promoting Cyber Awareness

The conference agenda will include both LIVE virtual programming sessions and ON-DEMAND video content. ALL of the content will be available to attendees for up to a year post-event. PLUS abundant networking opportunities including discussion boards, social groups, one-on-one meetups, gamification, and more!

Join your fellow educators, administrators, school counselors, students, and representatives from government and industry at what is sure to be an AWESOME event. The \$125 Early Bird Registration pricing lasts only until October 15, 2020, so get your tickets now.

To check out complete conference details, please go to [k12cybersecurityconference.org](http://k12cybersecurityconference.org).

### **Fun Facts and Trivia**

Eelpouts are thick-lipped, eel-shaped fishes with the dorsal and rear fins connected around the end of the tail and with small pelvic fins that, if present, are near the gills.

They live on the bottom and range from shallow to deep water.

Eelpouts are also known as burbot, Lawyer, Ling, Cusk, Lush, Loche, Mudblow and Poor Man's Lobster.

Eelpouts are commonly found in cold waters and abundant in Arctic and Antarctic regions.

Eelpouts can be found in most Minnesota northern lakes and rivers, including Lake Superior, but can also be found in small numbers in the prairie regions and parts of the lower Mississippi.

An eelpout may grow to be three feet long, but most are usually half that or less.

Some eelpout species lay eggs; others, including the abundant European eelpout, or viviparous blenny, give birth to live young.

Eelpouts are good indicators of a healthy watershed.

Typically, eelpouts require water temps lower than 70 degrees during the summer and are a rare catch, but come wintertime, these predators come alive and are most active.

The eelpout coloration varies from yellow-brown to brown or even dark olive with black mottling and blotching, giving it almost a camouflage appearance.

Eelpouts have one whisker, which many refer to as a goatee.

Eelpouts eat mostly other fish such as small yellow perch and walleyes, but also consume fish eggs, clams, crayfish, mayfly larvae and other aquatic insects.

Young eelpout are common prey for many fish, such as smallmouth bass, yellow perch, smelt, lake trout and muskie.

Humans also can be considered a predator even though many people consider eelpout the "ish" in fish and most folks don't even like to touch them.

Most eelpout are accidentally caught by anglers targeting other fish like walleyes

Folks who cut the line not knowing that an eelpout baked with a little butter, salt and pepper, miss out on a delicacy served in many households.

Eelpout meat is high in omega-3 and vitamin D.

Eelpout have long been used for fish meal, oil and food for animals raised for furs; the oil is absorbed through digestion making for a great fur conditioner.

The tough skin was once used in the windows of Siberia as a substitute for glass.

Located between Bemidji and Brainerd, Walker, Minnesota, hosts the International Eelpout Festival in February.

Depending on the weather, the event on Leech Lake started in 1979 by local businessman Ken Bresley to drum up tourism, can draw 10,000 to 15,000 people.

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

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