

The Wednesday Reader ***October 14, 2020***

Zoom Link for the Montana Business Education Association Business Meeting

The [Montana Business Education Association](#) (MBEA) will be holding its annual business meeting on Friday, October 16, via Zoom.

The MBEA Business Meeting, hosted by MBEA President-elect Mandy Wichman (Hobson), will begin at 2 pm (MDT), following the Montana ACTE Annual Business Meeting.

During the meeting, members will be electing a Secretary and a Vice President, honoring retirees, and recognizing award winners. If you are interested in becoming part of the MBEA leadership team as either Vice President or Secretary, please fill out this [form](#).

All meeting attendees will get a free virtual gift. MBEA will also be drawing for some door prizes.

Below are the Zoom details for the MBEA 2020 Business Meeting.

Join the Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/91327473414?pwd=WkdNcnV1VThaSDREWkZFUWVpa0txQT09>

Meeting ID: 913 2747 3414

Passcode: MBEA

For questions regarding the MBEA meeting, please contact MBEA President-elect Mandy Wichman at mandy.wichman@hobson.k12.mt.us.

Montana ACTE First-Time Attendee Scholarship for Montana Business & Marketing Educators from MBEA

The [Montana Business Education Association](#) (MBEA) is offering a [scholarship](#) to Montana's Business & Marketing Educators who will be participating in the Montana Association for Career and Technical Education (Montana ACTE) Fall Institute for the first time this year.

Scholarships are for \$50.00 each and up to four (4) scholarship will be awarded. In addition to be a registered participant of the Montana ACTE 2020 Virtual Institute, scholarship recipients must also participate in the MBEA Annual Business Meeting on Friday, October 16, beginning at 2:00 pm (MDT).

The scholarship application is available via a [Google Form](#) and must be completed and submitted by the end of the day on Wednesday, October 14. Scholarship funds will be sent via postal mail after attendance is confirmed.

For questions regarding the scholarship, please contact MBEA President-elect Mandy Wichman at mandy.wichman@hobson.k12.mt.us.

Diane Marsh, Columbia Falls Business Educator, Named 2020 Outstanding Technology Educator of the Year

Since changing her career from marketing to education, Columbia Falls High School business and technology teacher Diane Marsh has used previous real-world marketing experience and ever-expanding accreditation to provide students with the most relevant education possible.

The combination helped earn her the 2020 Outstanding Technology Teacher of the Year award, presented by the Northwest Council for Computer Education, an organization based out of Coeur D'Alene, Idaho.

"Diane inspires other educators in the northwest with new approaches and ideas that make a difference for students, staff and the community," Heidi Rogers, NCCE CEO said. "She is never standing still and she is the first to learn something and share it with others. She overwhelmingly received this award due in part to her commitment and dedication to students, but also for her innovative teaching approach as an online instructor as well as being a traditional classroom teacher."

"She's definitely our leader in making sure everybody's needs are met for whatever technology they need," said Marsh's business and technology colleague Becky Bates. "She doesn't technically have a title or anything, but she really assumes that role of professional development for our staff."

A role that has been in high demand since the start of the coronavirus pandemic in March, when Marsh has been helping teachers transition from face-to-face to, increasingly, online classrooms.

Bates nominated Marsh for the award in January, and Marsh received it at a ceremony in Seattle a week before schools began shutting down for the pandemic.

Read the complete article in the [Hungry Horse News](#). Congratulations Diane!

Perkins Updates, Fall CTE Data Collections, & the Opening of TEAMS

E-Grants will remain open until 5:00 pm (MDT), Friday, October 15, for **Perkins** grant submissions.

The **AIM Fall Career & Technical Education (CTE) Collection** is opening soon. This collection starts November 2, 2020, and ends December 31, 2020.

Please review all the AIM user guides for the Fall Enrollment and Program Participation collections on the [AIM User Guides Page](#).

The Fall Career & Technical Education (CTE) Data Collection is a follow-up to the Spring CTE Collection. Students identified as CTE Concentrators in the Spring who graduated in the Class of 2020 must be contacted to identify their status six months after high school graduation. For more information, please see the [AIM Fall CTE Collection User Guide](#).

TEAMS is now open and closes on December 1, 2020. Due to the impact of Covid-19, the TEAMS data collection window is extended to provide ample time and flexibility to complete the TEAMS report.

If you experience login issues while trying to access TEAMS, please contact OPITEAMS@mt.gov. If you do not have access or need to grant access for an employee, please have the Authorized Representative (AR) complete the [TEAMS Security Access Form](#).

Next Gen Personal Finance Offering a Virtual Fall FinCamp on Saturday, October 17

[Next Gen Personal Finance](#) (NGPF) will be hosting a Fall 2020 Virtual FinCamp on Saturday morning, October 17. The Fall 2020 Virtual FinCamp is a free, professional development event, and will feature two tracks—one for middle school and one for high school—and two levels for each track—Foundations and Implementation.

The Foundation sections will begin at 7:00 am (MDT) on Saturday, October 17, followed by Implementation at 10:00 am (MDT). Participants can register for each grade level—middle school or high school—and can complete either the Foundations or Implementation trainings, or both.

Form more information about the Fall 2020 Virtual FinCamp, or to register, please visit ngpf.org/pd/virtual-pd.

Student Scholarship Opportunity—NGPF PAYBACK Challenge

Want to give your students the opportunity to earn scholarships while simultaneously teaching them to make better money decisions about college? Enter the [Payback Challenge](#). Watch this [video](#) for details.

Step 1: Teachers Register Intent

--Once you've filled out this [Intent to Participate](#) form, you will receive the prompt for your students as well as next steps.

--Teach Middle School? The Payback Challenge is open to current US middle and high school students.

Step 2: Students Play [Playback](#)

--Do you have ELL students? [PAYBACK can also be played in Spanish](#)

--Short on computers in your classroom? PAYBACK is mobile-friendly!

Step 3: Students Respond to the Prompt:

After playing PAYBACK, you have a better idea of what to expect in college. But, COVID-19 has changed the way college looks and feels. How will your college decision-making change because of the pandemic? Refer to relevant excerpts from the PAYBACK game to enhance your key points.

Step 4: Teacher Nominates and Submits one (1) Student Response

--You will receive an email with instructions on how and where to send in nominations after you register

The deadline for nominations is 11:59 pm (PST), November 20, 2020.

Take the NGPF Challenge at

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScF05CSvoNs5avqB9hOx6jeRHWLnP9RlrMSK2wvSsq6o0_LSO/viewform

Cash Prizes

--National Grand Prize Winners: Two (2) at \$2,500 each

--Honorable Mention Awards: 45 at \$1,000 each

Start Here from Anywhere & Explore Accounting—Accounting is Analytics Activity

Help your students build foundational technology skills needed for today's workforce. As today's accountants are doing more to guide strategic decisions and evolve businesses, employers are now actively recruiting accounting graduates who have a firm understanding of skills like artificial intelligence, blockchain and data analytics.

In this month's activity from [Start Here. Go Places.](#)® partner [Accounting is Analytics](#), students will perform a transaction analysis for [Pepper Food Delivery](#), a fictitious food delivery service. They will use Microsoft Excel to calculate assets, liabilities, equity, net income, the accounting equation, and other basic data; then, will use their analytics skills to answer questions about the company's performance.

Visit startheregoplaces.com/teacher/classroom-resources/pepper-food-delivery to learn more about [Pepper Food Delivery](#) and to download the activity today.

Montana Students Encouraged to Participate in Montana Youth Election

Secretary of State Corey Stapleton and Superintendent of Public Instruction Elsie Arntzen announce the 2020 Montana Youth Election will take place on October 29. All Montana K-12 students are encouraged to participate by visiting youthvote.sosmt.gov. The website has new resources helpful to parents, teachers, and students.

The 2020 Youth Election allows middle and high school students to vote on all of the national and statewide races and ballot issues that registered Montana voters will have on their ballot. Elementary students are able to vote for President and a variety of other interests to younger children. Students will have the opportunity to vote from 7:00 am to 4:00 pm on October 29.

The results will be posted immediately following the closing of Montana Youth Vote and will be posted on youthvote.sosmt.gov.

This year, the Montana Youth Vote Ambassador Program is a way for interested students to volunteer in promoting the Youth Election in their community and become more involved in the election process.

Computer Science Teachers Association Makes the Switch to Virtual for CSTA 2021 Conference

Originally scheduled for Chicago in July, the [CTSA 2021 Conference](#) will again be held virtually, July 14-15.

Additional details and conference registration will be available later in the year at csteachers.org/page/csta-2021.

Digital Financial Education Courses for Middle & High School

Financial education is more than dollars and cents; it is about establishing better spending habits, instilling confidence, and equipping the next generation with the skills to pursue big financial goals with minimal risk. For more than 10 years, millions of students and their teachers have used EVERFI's digital lessons to develop youth financial capability.

[EVERFI](#) partners with sponsors nationwide to offer our interactive, online financial literacy resources to K-12 schools **free of charge**.

To get started on any of the below digital resources go to everfi.com/newteacher and/or contact your local Schools Manager for support: Sean Thomas at sthomas@everfi.com or 208.731.7746

[FutureSmart](#) (grades 6-8) middle school students act as mayor of their town, helping citizens solve the financial problems life throws their way.

[Marketplaces – High School Investment Education](#) (grades-9-12): In Marketplaces, students learn basic investment concepts that are needed to intelligently and confidently participate in the financial markets.

[EVERFI Financial Literacy for High School](#) (grades 9-12) EVERFI's free high school financial literacy course equips students with tools to manage their personal finances in the real world, from applying for financial aid to establishing credit and investing.

[Pathways: Financing Higher Education](#) (grades 9-12) is dedicated to providing high school learners with the skills they need to make the best decisions for themselves when financing their higher education.

[Money Moves: Modern Banking & Identity Protection](#) (grades 9-12) helps students develop strategies for managing their finances through online banking tools, showing them how to protect themselves against online scams and fraud.

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.

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, offers free, hands-on, entrepreneurship education curriculum. To learn more and to sign up for a free account, please visit yeacademy.org.

November 5 is Deadline for NCWIT High School Girls Contest Applications

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.

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.

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 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.

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 has been extended to October 31, 2020, so get your tickets now.

To check out complete conference details, please go to k12cybersecurityconference.org.

Fun Facts and Trivia

Fingerfish are found from the Atlantic coast of western Africa to the Indo-Pacific region.

Fingerfish usually inhabit inshore or estuarine waters.

Fingerfish are extremely compressed and deep-bodied and are often greater in height than in length.

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Fingerfish get their names from their long dorsal and anal fins, making them look like fingers.

Fingerfish are a popular aquarium fish.

Fingerfish can grow to become eight-nine inches in length and have two black bands extending vertically down their head.

If planning to have fingerfish in an aquarium, be sure to get a big tank as most sold in pet stores are juveniles.

Fingerfish are shoaling fish, so you need to have a large enough tank to house at least 4-6 of them.

Fingerfish are not solitary fish; therefore, they need members of their own species present in order to thrive.

Juvenile fingerfish can survive in the freshwater; however, as they get older, they prefer saltier waters.

Fingerfish are omnivores, eating both meaty and plant-based foods.

Be sure not to confuse fingerfish with fish fingers.

Fish fingers, or fish sticks, are a processed food made using a whitefish, such as cod, hake, haddock or pollock, which has been battered or breaded.

In 1900, a British popular magazine first cited the term fish finger in a recipe.

In 1953, fish finger became a commercial dish after the first ready-to-cook fish finger was sold as a frozen food.

The manufacturer was the American company Gorton Pew Fisheries; known today as Gorton's.

Gorton Pew Fisheries called their fish fingers "Gorton's Fish Sticks."

Gorton's was founded in 1849 in Gloucester, Massachusetts.

The iconic Gorton Fisherman first appeared in 1975.

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