

The Wednesday Reader **November 4, 2020**

Please Note: With next Wednesday, November 11, being a state holiday, next week's Wednesday Reader will be sent on Tuesday, November 10.

Fall CTE Data Collections and TEAMS Now Open

The **AIM Fall Career & Technical Education (CTE) Collection** is now open 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](#) and the [recorded webinar](#) on this collection.

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](#).

To assist with matching your courses to the OPI Course Codes, an OPI Course Codes Business & Marketing Education Reference Manual is available at bit.ly/MTBusEd20-21.

To assist with coding your courses to the OPI Course Codes and listing the enrollment for each course taught, please utilize the TEAMS Participation Report Worksheet and share your completed worksheet with the individual(s) who enter your school's data into TEAMS. Both a Word and PDF versions of the worksheet can be downloaded at bit.ly/MTBusEd20-21.

Webinars Announced for TEAMS Reporting

The Accreditation and Educator Preparation unit is offering [seven webinars](#) in November to assist with completing the TEAMS report. They are all virtual via Zoom.

There are two webinars intended for brand new users and five webinars for returning users that discuss FY2021 Updates.

To view the webinar schedule and to get the information to access each webinar, please go to <http://opi.mt.gov/Portals/182/Page%20Files/School%20Accreditation/TEAMS/2020%20Accreditation%20TEAMS%20Webinar%20Series.pdf?ver=2020-10-29-152132-940>.

Webinar from Start Here. Go Places.®: Bring Data Analytics to Your Classroom is Today

Prepare your students for a data-driven career. Data analytics is a critical part of having success in the business world. With automation, big data and emerging technologies coming to the forefront, skillsets required by employers are being redefined and students must be ready to compete.

Join [Start Here. Go Places.®](#) on Wednesday, November 4, 2020 from 2:00-3:00 pm (MST) to learn How to bring data analytics to your classroom.

In this webinar, Start Here. Go Places.® will share resources that will help educators introduce the topic of data analytics in their introductory accounting courses. The discussion will include what data analytics is, the impact of analytics on the accounting profession and how to describe analytics to your students.

A data analytics case that uses Google Sheets will then be shared for use in class. The case includes a step-by-step tutorial video, case handout for students, check figures, and teaching notes. The case is also available in Excel for proficiency requirements.

[Save your \(virtual\) seat.](#)

Evaluating Credit Cards Webinar from Take Charge Today this Afternoon

[Take Charge Today](#) hosts the final webinar of the Fall 2020 Webinar Series today beginning at 4:30 pm (MST).

The Evaluation Credit Cards webinar will be held today, Wednesday, November 4 and can be joined via Zoom at <https://arizona.zoom.us/j/92719570180>. Password 579338.

All past recorded webinars can be found by clicking the Webinar tab in the [Take Charge Today Video Library](#).

To learn more about the Take Charge Today curriculum, please visit takechargetoday.arizona.edu.

Do you need a free Take Charge Today account? Visit takechargetoday.arizona.edu/user/register to get your free account today.

Tomorrow, 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.

[Free November PD Workshops, New Sandbox Folders, Search Tool, & More from CodeHS](#)

CodeHS (codehs.com) is offering a series of free virtual professional development events in the month of November. [Save your spot](#) in a free hour-long Professional Development workshop hosted by [CodeHS Teacher Trainers](#).

Workshops coming up soon include:

[Teaching Computer Science in a Blended Classroom](#): November 4, 4:30 pm (MST)

[CodeHS Scripting, Debugging, and Help Tools](#): November 11, 5:00 pm (MST)

[JavaScript with Karel the Dog \(Middle School\)](#): November 12, 2:30 (MST)

[Communication within CodeHS](#): November 18, 2:00 (MST)

[How to Keep Students Honest in CodeHS](#): November 19, 4:30 pm (MST)

[Register today](#) for one or more of the workshops.

New Search Tool & Sandbox Folder

Quickly find tools, students, sections, and courses with the new CodeHS Quick Find search tool. You can even create a new Sandbox Program in seconds. In the CodeHS Sandbox, you can now use folders and subfolders to easily organize and sort your Sandbox programs. [Learn more](#).

National Cybersecurity Career Awareness Week & Webinar

November 9-14 is National Cybersecurity Career Awareness Week. [Join CodeHS](#) for an hour-long webinar to learn about how you can bring quality cybersecurity courses to your school and prepare students for the future.

New Blogs & Virtual Teaching Q&A

Keep up with the latest in CodeHS's [ReadWriteCode](#) and [Coding in the Wild](#) blogs.

[What You Need to Know About Syntax vs Style](#)

[A Year of Uncertainty—Tips to Prepare for a Virtual or In-Person Classroom](#)

[Coding for Machine Learning](#)

Have some virtual teaching tips of your own? CodeHS would love to hear from you. [Share Your Experience](#).

[Applications Now Open in Montana for Code.org Professional Learning Program](#)

Applications are now open for the [Professional Learning Program](#) for middle and high school educators! If you're interested in teaching computer science for the 2021-2022 academic year, this is the time to explore CS curriculum and collaborate with educators of all experience levels to develop lesson plans and teaching strategies.

CS Discoveries Workshops

--June 21-25, 2021 in Helena (specific location TBD)

--August 9-13, 2021 for Montana, Oregon, & Washington teachers (all-virtual)

CS Principles Workshops

--June 21- 25, 2021 in Helena (specific location TBD)

--August 9-13, 2021 for Montana, Oregon, & Washington teachers (all-virtual)

What is the [Professional Learning Program](#)? Hosted by highly trained facilitators, Code.org professional development workshops will prepare you to confidently bring CS to your students as well as connect with an online and in-person community of peers. You do not need previous experience teaching CS and most workshops have scholarship funding available.

Whether teaching in-person or remotely, educators across the country have been able to bring creativity, fun, and problem-solving to their students through computer science. All workshops will take place in accordance with local state guidelines regarding social distancing, so [apply today](#).

[Elementary](#) teachers can sign-up for a one-day workshop near you. Applications are not required for Computer Science Fundamentals workshops and take place throughout the country, year-round.

[Middle and High School](#) teachers will begin with a 5-day workshop on Computer Science Discoveries and Principles in the summer, with quarterly meetings thereafter.

Thank you for your hard work to prepare students for the future. If you have any questions, please contact [Code.org](#).

Computer Science Fundamentals Virtual Workshop Available for Montana Teachers from Code.org

AVID is the new [Code.org](#) regional partner for Montana and AVID is pleased to announce a virtual professional development events for Code.org's [Computer Science Fundamentals](#) course. Computer Science Fundamental's is Code.org's K-5 curriculum.

The Montana CS Fundamentals virtual workshop will be held November 10 and 17, 4-7 pm (MST) both days.

This virtual course will be a blend of synchronous and asynchronous content. The course will be facilitated via Zoom and Seesaw. Participants will receive the Seesaw join code during the live Zoom meeting after registering beginning October 21.

Participants should plan to spend about an hour meeting live each night, and two hours engaged in asynchronous learning using the Seesaw and Code.org platforms.

The cost of this workshop is \$25/person; payment details will be provided at a later date. Six (6) Montana Renewal Units will be offered with this workshop.

For additional details and to register, please visit studio.code.org/pd/workshops/9590/enroll. If you do not have a Code.org accounts. Please use the link to create your free account.

Applications for grades 6-12 workshops will go live the end of October. Details will be shared when they are finalized.

Curiosity Matters: College and Career Readiness Resources from EVERFI

EVERFI's engaging online [college and career readiness resources](#) tap into student interest and curiosity to make plans for their future. Whether you are teaching career exploration, entrepreneurship, or

workforce preparedness skills, the digital lessons help students plan for and practice achieving their personal goals.

EVERFI partners with sponsors nationwide to offer our interactive, online lessons to K-12 schools free of charge. EVERFI partners with sponsors nationwide to offer our interactive, online lessons to K-12 schools free of charge. Register for a teacher account at everfi.com/newteacher and/or contact your local Schools Manager for support: Sean Thomas at stthomas@everfi.com or 208.731.7746.

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/1FAIpQLScF05CSvoNs5avqB9hQx6jeRHWLnP9RlrMSK2wvSsq6o0LSQ/viewform>

Cash Prizes

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

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

Fun Facts and Trivia

Iridescent sharks, also known as the Siamese shark or sutchi catfish, are a species of catfish native to Southeast Asia and Thailand.

They share a family with the Mekong Giant Catfish, one of the largest freshwater fish in the world.

Iridescent sharks are a tropical freshwater fish that tend to stick to deep and wide rivers where they have enough room to roam freely.

Iridescent sharks originate from the large rivers Chao Phraya and Mekong in Asia, though they have been introduced into other rivers for aquaculture.

The iridescent shark is a migratory fish that in most regions moves upstream to spawn during the flood season while the waters are high and returns downstream to seek rearing habitats when the river water levels recede.

An albino iridescent shark is built exactly like a regular one; the only difference is it is white all over and has red eyes.

In the aquarium, iridescent sharks provide a lot of schooling activity.

As a matured adult the iridescent shark can grow up to four foot.

The biggest challenge when keeping Iridescent sharks is having the right size aquarium; while a 100 gallon for juveniles will be okay, a 300-gallon tank will be needed as they begin to grow.

The iridescent shark's bright flashy colors have made them popular in the aquarium trade.

They are hardy fish and eat a wide variety of food.

Like most catfish or even goldfish, Iridescent sharks will eat anything they can find and as often as possible; this is what allows them to grow to such enormous sizes.

Iridescent sharks are fairly timid and can be easily scared; when this happens, they may hit their head on the glass or decor.

As the name states, these fish are iridescent—they have shiny skin on their sides as juveniles and two black stripes on and below their lateral line.

The lateral line is a sensory organ that is filled with nervous tissue used to detect changes in the water.

Once they reach adulthood however, iridescent sharks start to become uniformly gray.

Females iridescent sharks are usually larger and 'plumper' than males.

One unique thing about iridescent sharks is the fact they are "naked catfish", meaning they do not have bony plates over their body; they do however have skin and choose to live in the middle of the water column.

Iridescent sharks have long, whisker like barbels, that help them to sense the environment.

There are a lot of sensory organs in fish like these and the reason stems from the water quality they are used to in the wild—waters may be murky so they are not able to use their eyes all the time.

Iridescent shark meat is often marketed under the common name swai in the United States, basa in the United Kingdom, panga in Europe, and cream dory or basa in several Asian countries.

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