

The Wednesday Reader

April 12, 2017

FREE Summer Update Workshops – “Hands on” Exploring of the STEM Branch of Business Ed

While enjoying the calms and the wilds of Montana this summer, plan to take a day for some “Hands on” exploring of the STEM branch of Business Education. If you are looking for a little summer adventure, mark your calendars for the 2017 Montana Business Education Summer Update Workshops.

Three (3) regional workshops will offered across the state for Montana’s Business Education Professionals. The 2017 Summer Update Workshops topics will include the financial education program Hands on Banking®, getting “plugged into” activities for integrating Computer Science principals, and Cyber Teacher Certification.

Workshops will be held

- Monday, July 31 at Glacier High School in Kalispell;
- Wednesday, August 2 at Skyview High School in Billings; and
- Friday, August 4 at Capital High School in Helena.

Workshops will be facilitated by Montana Business Education Specialist Eric Swenson. Attendees will gain hands-on experience with the free, fun, and engaging financial education program from Wells Fargo Hands on Banking®; participate in and receive instructional resources for implementing computer science principals using engaging games and puzzles that use cards, string, crayons from CS Unplugged; and begin the journey to earn Cyber Teacher Certification via LifeJourney’s National Security Administration Day of Cyber.

In addition to all the information and fun activities, Summer Update Workshop participants will receive Hands on Banking® curriculum materials for teens (grades 6-8), young adults (ages 15-21), and Entrepreneurship (including starting, managing, & growing a business); the complete CS Unplugged collection of learning activities; and have the opportunity to become a certified Cyber Teacher.

Below is the schedule for each of the three locations: July 31, Kalispell at Glacier High School; August 2, Billings at Skyview High School; and August 4, Helena at Capital High School.

- 8:30-9 am: Registration
- 9-9:30 am: Welcome & Introductions
- 9:30-10:30 am: Hands on Banking®
- 10:30-10:45 am: Break
- 10:45-Noon: CS Unplugged
- Noon-1 pm: Lunch (On your own)
- 1-1:30 pm: Business Education Curriculum Update
- 1:30-2:30 pm: Cybersecurity Instructional Resources & Cyber Teacher Certification
- 2:30-2:45 pm: Break
- 2:45-3:45 pm: Cyber Teacher Certification, cont.
- 3:45-4 pm: Wrap Up & Closing

Come for the day and leave with some fresh AIR—*Activities, Instructional Materials, and Resources*—to start out the new school year.

Registration can be completed at <https://goo.gl/forms/XVUTzqwKFOfMFiaq2>. If you have problems accessing the link via the Google “shorthand” URL, here is the longhand version of link, https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScYtFK0u03RrUfVJoCOxxLyrtdTJLrAQki0twD1iU5SfEg6IA/viewform?usp=sf_link.

Please complete registration by Friday, June 23. A registration confirmation will be sent after your registration has been processed.

These workshop will be offered free of charge with up to six (6) OPI Renewal Units available. Participants who complete the Cyber Teacher Certification program and submit a copy of their earned certificate will be eligible to receive six (6) additional OPI Renewal Units. Proof of an earned Certificate of Completion must be submitted by Friday, August 18, 2017 to receive the additional six (6) units.

Participation in one of the 2017 Summer Update workshops is required in order to earn the six (6) OPI renewal units through this offer to receive renewal units for the completion of the Cyber Teacher Certification.

Any travel and lodging expenses you may incur to attend can be paid for by either Perkins and/or State CTE/VoEd funds.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Reminder – Submit CTE Perkins Intent to Apply & State VoEd Application for 2017-2018 Funding

The Office of Public Instruction has again this year combined both the Federal Carl D. Perkins 'Intent to Apply' AND the State CTE/VoEd Funding application for school districts' convenience. You can apply for one or both funding programs using this one electronic form.

The online link to access and complete the combined Federal and State Funding application is now available and listed below. It is also available on the Secondary CTE web page of the OPI website inside the *Perkins Federal Funding* tab.

Authorized Representatives of Local Education Agencies (LEAs) will use the online link to access and complete the brief electronic form for the 2017-2018 E-Grants cycle. All public high schools and K-12 districts with qualifying Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs are eligible to apply for funding. Elementary districts are not eligible for Perkins or State CTE/VoEd monies.

Districts will NOT receive a 2017-2018 Perkins allocation unless this electronic form is completed and submitted online at the OPI on or before the deadline. These designations are binding and cannot be changed once allocations have been downloaded into the E-Grants system.

The online link can be found at <http://app.keysurvey.com/f/1026384/41f0/>.

The **DEADLINE** for submission of the combined application is **April 28, 2017**.

If you have questions, please contact Christy Hendricks, CTE/Perkins Data Control Specialist, at chendricks@mt.gov or by phone at 406.444.9019.

Belgrade Business Ed Department Looking for Information & Input from the Field

Belgrade High School business teachers Nancy Francis and Leslie Peterson are looking at adding WordPress to their Web Design class and are wondering if there are any school using WordPress.

If you are using WordPress and/or have information and resources you would like to share, please contact Leslie at lpeterson@belgradeschools.com.

Perkins 2016-2017 CTE Spring Data Collection – Time to Identify CTE Concentrators

The Career and Technical Education (CTE) Spring Data Collection begins March 1, 2017 and ends April 28, 2017. This AIM collection asks schools to identify all 12th grade high school students who were enrolled at any point during the current 2016-2017 school year who meet the definition of a Career & Technical Education (CTE) Concentrator.

CTE Concentrators are 12th graders who have earned three (3) or more credits in any CTE program in any combination during their years of high school. Currently, enrolled CTE courses count towards credits earned.

CTE Concentrators must have the 'CTE Concentrator' box checked and an 'Area of Concentration' entered into the AIM/Infinite Campus data system. If the student has a child or shares the parenting of a child, the 'Single Parent' box should also be marked. High schools who receive funding from the Carl D. Perkins federal grant program must complete this CTE Spring Data Collection.

Instructions for completing the CTE Spring Data Collection can be found on the AIM webpage as well as inside the 'Data Collections' tab on the Secondary CTE webpage located at this link:

<http://www.opi.mt.gov/pub/AIM/Collections/CareerTechnicalEducation/SpringCTECollectionGuide.pdf>.

Questions regarding this data collection should be directed to the AIM Helpdesk at 1-877-424-6681 or send an email to opiainhelp@mt.gov.

Questions regarding CTE programs and/or the Carl D. Perkins federal grant program should be directed to Christy Hendricks at 406-444-9019 or email her at: chendricks@mt.gov.

Thank you so much for all you do from everyone at the Career and Technical Education Division of The Office of Public Instruction.

GAERF 2017 Student Design Competition

The [Graphic Arts Education and Research Foundation](http://www.gaerf.org) (GAERF) (www.gaerf.org) is having their ninth annual student design contest. This year's theme is MAGnify!

Students are encouraged to design and print a full-page magazine ad for a product of their choice that is linked to digital media that demonstrates the role that print plays in today's multichannel media mix. The contest is open to all secondary and post-secondary students studying graphics communications/printing, advertising, graphic design, or interactive media program.

Entries selected by GAERF will be judged by the a panel of industry professionals. Winners and their instructors will be notified by July 17, 2017.

1st Place Awards: \$2,000 plus a two-day all-expenses paid trip for the student and instructor to attend PRINT 17, September 13-14, 2017, in Chicago, IL (one secondary school winner; one post-secondary school winner).

2nd Place Awards: \$1,500 (one secondary school winner; one post-secondary school winner).

3rd Place Awards: \$1,000 (one secondary school winner; one post-secondary school winner).

Entries must be submitted by teachers/instructors, and are due June 2, 2017. Visit GAERF's [website](#) for the contest entry form and rules.

Explore Game-Based Karel, Turtle, and 3D Modeling Courses in NCLab for FREE

The NCLab Team (nclab.com) is pleased to announce the release of new versions of the popular Karel Coding, Turtle Coding and 3D Modeling courses.

These courses are **free for educators**. Visit <http://nclab.com/teachers/> to request your free professional development license. Major improvements include dozens of self-graded quizzes and performance tasks (creative projects) aligned to Common Core, NGSS and CSForAll standards. In addition, NCLab has implemented many other minor features based on instructor and student feedback.

Karel Coding

Learn programming with the engaging power of a computer game. Students solve fun mazes, write programs in a simplified Python language, and earn karate-like belts and certificates. Designed for complete beginners as well as for students who already know Scratch. Ages 10-99.

Read more at nclab.com/karel-coding-course.

Turtle Coding

Students are introduced to Python coding by drawing beautiful patterns with the Python Turtle. They learn how to use the Creative Suite to create their own designs, save them in their NCLab account, export them for laser cutting and 3D printing, and share them online. Ages 11-99.

Learn more at nclab.com/turtle-coding-course.

3D Modeling

This course introduces students to Constructive Solid Geometry (CSG) by building models they know from games, sports and movies. Students also learn how to use the Creative Suite to create their own models, save in their user account, export for 3D printing, and share with others online. Ages 12-99.

Discover more about 3D Modeling at nclab.com/3d-modeling-course.

Celebrate Scratch's 10th Anniversary in May

May 2017 marks Scratch's 10th anniversary (scratch.mit.edu). You can join or host a Scratch Day event to celebrate creative coding.

What is Scratch Day? [Scratch Day \(day.scratch.mit.edu\)](http://day.scratch.mit.edu) events bring young people together to share projects and ideas, tinker, experiment, and learn from one another. Each May, people around the world gather at hundreds of local [Scratch Day](#) events to celebrate the [Scratch](#) coding language and online community.

Why should I host an event? This May marks Scratch's 10th anniversary. Join the vibrant, global community to celebrate 10 years of creative coding. Consider [hosting a Scratch Day](#) in your classroom, at your school, or in your community.

You can plan a small gathering with your learners, or invite others in your community to attend. To get started planning your Scratch Day event, visit the [How to Host page](#).

[New Course – Joy & Beauty of Data at MSU Bozeman with Funding Available for Teachers](#)

Montana State University (MSU) will offer a new Master of Science in Science Education (MSSE) course for Montana teachers, "Computer Science in the Classroom: Joy and Beauty of Data," July 17-21, 2017 on MSU's campus in Bozeman.

The 2-credit course is intended for 7-12th grade teachers who want to learn how to incorporate computational ideas in the classroom. In addition, teachers who take the course will be introduced to the broad area of data science and will extend their knowledge of the Python programming language.

Please note: Joy and Beauty of Computing is a prerequisite in order to participate in the Joy and Beauty of Data.

High school teachers who complete the course can potentially teach CSCI 1xx, The Joy and Beauty of Data, as a dual enrollment course.

The course builds upon the pre-requisite course, "Joy and Beauty of Computing," previously offered at MSU (2014-2016) and offered this summer at the University of Montana.

The course will be taught by Dr. John Paxton, Director, Gianforte School of Computing, Montana State University.

Support for Montana teachers is available. For more information and how to apply, please contact Diana Paterson, MSSE Associate Director at 406.994.5679 or msse@montana.edu.

[Joy & Beauty of Computing Workshop @ UofM – Travel Funds & Stipends Available](#)

The University of Montana will be hosting a Joy and Beauty of Computing workshop on the University of Montana campus in Missoula June 12-16, 2107.

The workshop will focus on Computational Thinking, Python programming, and Topics in Computer Science. A sample curriculum can be viewed at cs.montana.edu/paxton/classes/joy-and-beauty/. Plan to attend and learn the Joy and Beauty of Computing curriculum so you can offer the course at your high school, potentially as dual enrollment.

This workshop is based upon work supported by the National Science Foundation under grant no. CNS-1639841. Funds are available to help cover travel as well as stipends of \$1000 each to offer to over 15 accepted participants.

Instructors for this event include Yolanda Reimer (University of Montana), Jeff Braun (Montana Tech), Tim Olson (Salish Kootenai College), and Qing Yang (Montana State University).

Participants must be willing to take a free online python course prior to arrival and attend two (2) follow-on weekend workshops in Missoula.

If interested, apply online at https://umt.co1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_aahKo3kpBXC5Ok5.

For more information, contact Yolanda Reimer at yonlanda.reimer@umontana.edu.

Fun Facts and Trivia

The Azores are a group of nine volcanic islands spread over 370 miles in the North Atlantic Ocean, about 850 miles west of Portugal.

Home to about 250,000 people, the Azores are known for their vibrantly-colored blue green lakes, fertile prairies, volcanic craters, colorful hydrangeas, 15th century churches, and majestic manor houses.

The nine islands and their many islets add up to 906 square miles of land mass. Corvo, the smallest island, covers seven square miles, while São Miguel, the largest, is 293 square miles.

Year-round temperatures in the Azores range between 57°F and 71°F.

Ever since the Azores became an autonomous region of Portugal in 1976, each of three branches of its government is located on a different island—the Executive Branch is located in Ponta Delgada, on São Miguel Island; the Legislative Branch is located in Horta on the island of Faial; and the Judicial Branch is located in Angra do Heroísmo on the island of Terceira.

Mount Pico, on the island of Pico, at 7,713 feet above sea level, is the highest point in the Azores and all of Portugal.

Famous local food of the Azores includes Cozido das furnas (a one-pot stew cooked by the hot springs,) octopus stewed in wine, kale soup, fried mackerel, locally-grown pineapples, the sweet/spicy Pimenta da terra (cherry-red peppers,) and fresh rich dairy products such as local yogurt, butter and cheeses.

In the 1750's, tea leaf was found growing in the wild in the Azores and commercial tea production in the Azores began in the 1870's and continues today.

The United States maintains a NATO air base on the island of Terceira; the Lajes Air Base provides a strategically-located mid-Atlantic link for US and Allied Forces to Europe, Africa and the Middle East.

Lajes Field is a multi-use airfield, home to the Portuguese Air Force Base, a United States Air Force detachment unit and a regional air passenger terminal.

Wind surfing, hand gliding, scuba diving, horse riding and sailing are all popular in Azores.

Windmills can be found throughout the Azores and their designs were most likely inspired by those found in the Netherlands.

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