

## The Wednesday Reader

May 13, 2020

Please note: Next week's edition, May 20, of the Wednesday Reader will be the last one for the 2019-2020 school year.

### MFEC Offering Scholarships to JumpStart's National Educator Conference

The Montana Financial Education Coalition (MFEC) is offering scholarships for Montana Teachers (PreK-12) to attend the [JumpStart National Educator Conference](#). MFEC teacher scholarship applications may be submitted online. Please refer to this link for the [MFEC teacher scholarship application form](#). The deadline for the submission of scholarship applications is June 30, 2020. Please review the [MFEC's teacher scholarship policy](#) before submitting the application.

Additionally, JumpStart also has their own teacher scholarship program. The MFEC encourages you to apply to both to increase your chances of landing a scholarship. Here are the links to JumpStart's [scholarship criteria](#) and [teacher scholarship application](#).

The next National Educator Conference is November 7-9, 2020, in Atlanta. This is the only national conference dedicated to personal finance education in the classroom and the professionals who teach it. The conference is designed for K-12 classroom educators who teach personal finance or incorporate it into any other subject. As a coalition of more than 100 diverse national partner organizations, JumpStart brings together the resources, support, and expertise needed to engage, inspire, and appreciate classroom educators from across the country, who attend the conference on fully funded scholarships.

This conference offers classroom educators an opportunity to see, learn about, and try financial education resources to integrate immediately into current lesson plans, to meet with leaders from finance and education, and to network with colleagues from across the country.

Here is what two of our 2019 scholarship recipients said about last year's National Educator Conference.

*Janelle Berry (Skyview High School) — Overall the conference was fantastic, and it was so nice to talk shop with other personal finance educators. Thank you for the opportunity to attend!*

*Jill Page (Glasgow High School) — This conference is wonderful. If I could go every year I would. This year I took away some information on Investing and insurance in the classroom. Also, to be around so many other educators and have a chance to visit with them and see what they are doing, what works, etc. is such a learning experience in itself. It is one of the best well-planned conferences that I have attended.*

### Montana ACTE Expands CTE Learn COVID19 Support

Recognizing the dramatic impact of COVID19 on instructional efforts, the Montana Association for Career & Technical Education (Montana ACTE) negotiated the offer of a selection of free online courses through Montana CTE Learn to prepare CTE teachers to teach online.

As the conclusion of this free offer approaches (May 31), Montana ACTE has been getting requests to develop a broader offering of courses to engage CTE teachers and staff in a wider range of professional development activities while they are working remotely.

In response to this need, Montana ACTE is pleased to offer CTE professionals and institutions 50% off from June 1-July 31, 2020, on any Montana CTE Learn course and subscription key purchases (150+ online courses).

Simply use VIP Code CTE50 to make your purchase on <https://mt.ctelearn.org>. Purchased keys can be used anytime within one year of purchase.

### Career Awareness Webinar from Youth Entrepreneurs & MT Chamber of Commerce Wednesday, May 13

Youth Entrepreneurs and the Montana Chamber of Commerce will be hosting a Career Awareness Webinar with Michael Mattmiller of Microsoft, on Wednesday, May 13. The webinar will be held from 10-11 am.

Michael Mattmiller is Director of Government Affairs at Microsoft Corporation. As a government technologist, Michael strives to improve communities through the use of technology. After a career in consulting, Michael served as the Chief Technology Officer for the City of Seattle, where he modernized systems and led the city's digital equity program to increase broadband and device access.

Now at Microsoft, Michael works with government leaders to foster an environment for digital transformation. Additionally, Michael is a Board Member of the Montana Chamber Foundation.

#### Webinar Logistics

Topic: Career Awareness Webinar with Michael Mattmiller

Time: Wednesday, May 13, 2020 from 10:00 to 11:00 am

Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/96935602782>

Meeting ID: 969 3560 2782

Password: YEMontana

Dial-in: 1.301.715.8592

Meeting ID: 969 3560 2782

Password: 230639

The Montana Chamber of Commerce recognizes some school districts have enforced a “No-Zoom” policy, while other communities are struggling with equity access for all students in this distance learning transition. This webinar will also be recorded for offline viewing at the Montana Chamber’s YouTube channel ([youtube.com/channel/UCLZ7D6onWTIquN1MN5j8vfA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLZ7D6onWTIquN1MN5j8vfA)). Montana Chamber of Commerce webinars have randomly generated meeting IDs and are password protected to prevent against uninvited guests, bad actors and “Zoom-Bombing”.

#### **Montana Learn 2020 Task Force Being Formed by OPI & Accepting Applications for Participation**

Superintendent of Public Instruction Elsie Arntzen is launching the [Montana Learn 2020 Task Force](#) to assist in developing K-12 public schools re-opening guidelines for the 2020-2021 school year. Superintendent Arntzen has consistently shared that the new normal in Montana’s K-12 schools will look different as a result of COVID-19. She has begun organizing the internal and external flexibilities the OPI will need to serve students and schools in this new environment.

The [Montana Learn 2020 Task Force](#) will draft school re-opening guidance that is reflective of safety factors, family needs, student learning, and teacher professional development. The guidance is intended to reflect the flexibility necessary for local control and decision-making while providing a framework of options for local communities.

The final recommendations from the Task Force will be presented to the Montana School Safety Advisory Committee for inclusion in broader state guidance documents for schools.

The application can be downloaded at [opi.mt.gov/Portals/182/COVID-19/MT%20Learn%20Task%20Force.docx?ver=2020-05-07-103603-330](https://opi.mt.gov/Portals/182/COVID-19/MT%20Learn%20Task%20Force.docx?ver=2020-05-07-103603-330). Additional information regarding the Task Force is included within the application including a schedule of Zoom meetings.

Applications to participate in the Montana Learn Task Force will be accepted through May 14, 2020. Completed applications can be emailed to [dylan.klapmeier@mt.gov](mailto:dylan.klapmeier@mt.gov).

#### **Two Computer Science Courses on OPI Learning Hub for Teachers**

The Office of Public Instruction’s Learning Hub ([learninghub.mrooms.net](https://learninghub.mrooms.net)) has two computer science-related courses available for teachers—Introduction to Computer Science and Diving into Computer Science: Tools for Every Grade.

Introduction to Computer Science (2 OPI Renewal Units): The goal of this course is to lay the foundation for an understanding of computer science. Participants will learn the many branches of computer science, understand why it is increasingly important to include in K-12 education, identify career paths that rely on computer science, and learn how computer science can be useful for everyone.

Diving Into Computer Science: Tools for Every Grade (1-3 OPI Renewal Units): The course will review the MT Digital Literacy & Computer Science Guidelines & connect tools to help implement these guidelines. Participants will understand how Computer Science can be incorporated into a variety of classes, learn about grade-specific tools, programs, & tips for implementation.

### **New Dates for ACTE Region V Conference Announced**

The [ACTE Region V Conference](#) previously scheduled to be held last month is now scheduled for October 28-30, 2020.

The conference is still schedule to be held in Lake Tahoe, Nevada. For more details and updates, please check the ACTE Region V website at [acteonline.org/state\\_region/region-v](http://acteonline.org/state_region/region-v).

### **Business & Marketing Montana Career Pathways Sent Out for Review and Approval**

Over the past couple of weeks, following the review of the Business & Marketing Participation Reports from 2019-2020 school year, Pathway Approval Form(s) for Montana's Business & Marketing Education programs' Montana Career Pathways were sent out via email.

The courses within the Pathway Approval Form are those most closely related to those in the OPI's Montana Career Pathways' [Secondary Programs of Study](#). In reviewing the CTE Participation Reports and putting the Pathway Approval Forms, I have tried to ensure all courses taught are listed in at least one pathway.

If your program has more than one pathway, the Excel sent in the email will have a sheet for each pathway. All pathways require at least one (1) credit/two (2) semesters of foundation coursework and at least one (1) credit/two (2) semesters of elective, or advanced, coursework.

If you would like to view all the courses within your CTE Participation Report, please let me know. Keep in mind the data in this year's CTE Participation Reports cannot be changed, but the data can be updated when information is entered into TEAMS for the 2020-2021 school year.

To finalize the Pathway Approval Form(s), please complete the following steps.

1. Review the courses and related information listed in the form and note any necessary updates/corrections.
2. List any additional courses offerings not offered this year, but may be offered on an alternating/rotating schedule basis.
3. Include any Work-Based Learning experiences provided by the program &/or the school (a [Work-Based Learning Manual](#) can be downloaded from the OPI website at <http://opi.mt.gov/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=GyycPUtcJ4M%3d&portalid=182>).
4. Identify any Dual Credit/Concurrent Enrollment course offerings and/or Industry Recognized Credentials available within the program area.

When completed, please key your name, or the name of the individual who approved the data within the form, and the date.

Save a copy for your records and email the Excel file/form(s) back to me at [eswenson@mt.gov](mailto:eswenson@mt.gov) by Saturday, May 30.

Also, beginning this spring, CTE concentrators for Perkins reporting will be identified by Montana Career Pathway instead of CTE program area. Therefore, please share your approved pathway(s) with those who work with your school/district Perkins data as these will be the available pathways for next year's reporting. All approved pathways from the 2019-2020 school year for a district will be listed in the Perkins E-grant application for the 2020-2021 school year.

Thank you for your time to review and complete the Pathway Approval Form(s) and please let me know if there are any questions or if any additional information is needed.

### **Register Today for the Montana Business Education Summer Update 2020—Sessions in Billings, Helena, & Kalispell**

The 2020 edition of the Montana Business Education Summer Update will be held Thursday, July 30 in Billings at Skyview High School; Tuesday, August 4 in Helena at Capital High School; and Thursday, August 6 in Kalispell at Glacier High School.

Topics for the Montana Business Education Summer Update 2020 will include Active Activities for Accounting; Cybersecurity in Your Curriculum using Free Online Resources; Montana Business Education & CTE Curriculum Updates; and Carl Perkins & Montana Career Pathways.

The Montana Business Education Summer Update 2020 is a free, one-day professional development event for Montana's Business & Marketing Education Professionals, pre-service teachers, and Business Professionals of America and DECA chapter advisors. Up to six (6) OPI renewal units will be available.

Registration is required and can be completed at [bit.ly/MTBusEdUpdate2020](http://bit.ly/MTBusEdUpdate2020). Bringing your own device (BYOD) is recommended.

For questions, please contact Montana Business Education Specialist Eric Swenson at [eswenson@mt.gov](mailto:eswenson@mt.gov).

### **Jump\$tart 2020 National Educator Conference in Atlanta, November 7-9—Attend for Free via Scholarship Program**

The Jump\$tart Coalition for Financial Education ([jumpstart.org](http://jumpstart.org)) is excited to announce details for the [2020 National Educator Conference](#) to be held in Atlanta, Georgia, November 7-9, 2020. The National Educator Conference is the nation's premier professional development event for PreK through 12th grade teachers, dedicated to financial education in the classroom.

For teachers, the [National Educator Conference](#) ([jumpstart.org/jsnec20](http://jumpstart.org/jsnec20)) is an all-scholarship event, offering tools and information they can use in their classrooms as soon as they return to school. For Jump\$tart partners and other financial literacy stakeholders, the Jump\$tart National Educator Conference provides a platform to share their resources and expertise with the educators who need and want it most. And for all participants, it's a warm and invigorating opportunity to network, collaborate, re-charge, and celebrate each other's unique contribution to "*financial smarts for students.*"

This year's conference will be November 7-9, 2020, at the Loews Atlanta. Thanks to generous underwriters, sponsors, and scholarship providers, Jump\$tart expects to host 375 classroom teachers from across the country along with more than 100 speakers, exhibitors, and other stakeholders.

To attend the 2020 Jump\$tart National Educator Conference, all teachers must complete and submit a [scholarship application](#) by August 21, 2020 (unless you have received a scholarship from one of our participating Partners or State Coalitions.) There is no self-pay registration option.

Apply now for your scholarship to attend at [jumpstart.org/what-we-do/nec/2020-nec/scholarship-application](http://jumpstart.org/what-we-do/nec/2020-nec/scholarship-application).

### **Computer Science Professional Development Opportunity at MSU-Bozeman – Funding Available for Teachers**

Montana State University (MSU) will offer a Master of Science in Science Education (MSSE) course for Montana teachers, "Computer Science in the Classroom: Joy and Beauty of Data," July 6-10, 2020, through 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. High school teachers who complete the course can potentially teach CSCI 127, 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 (2014-2017), the University of Montana (2017), Montana Tech (2018) and Salish-Kootenai College (2019). The Joy and Beauty of Computer course will be offered this summer at Montana State University-Billings,

<http://hs.umt.edu/cs/research/reimer/NSF%20CS10K%20Project/Professional%20Development/default.php>.

The [Joy and Beauty of Data](#), CSCI 582, will be taught by Hunter Lloyd, Professor, Gianforte School of Computing, Montana State University.

Support for Montana teachers is available. For more information and how to apply, please contact, Holly Thompson, MSSE Program Officer, at 406. 994.7485 or [msse@montana.edu](mailto:msse@montana.edu).

### **Get ArcGIS Mapping Software for Free for Your CTE Classrooms**

Career and technical education (CTE) classrooms can take advantage of Esri's offer of software to schools and clubs. The [ArcGIS for Schools Bundle](#) is available at no cost for K–12 classroom instruction.

ArcGIS is a platform with desktop, web, and mobile apps for collecting data, analyzing spatial and nonspatial attributes, and communicating with dashboards and stories. ArcGIS is about supporting the best decisions and fostering understanding. Esri makes ArcGIS, serving over 350,000 organizations globally. It is the most widely used GIS in the world. GIS use is already implemented in the career and technical education (CTE) standards of at least 17 states—from a variety of career clusters.

Equip your students with GIS skills needed for future career paths. [Request free software today.](#)

### **Economic Impact Surveys for Content Standards Revision**

Back before the global pandemic took over our lives, the OPI was seeking feedback on the potential economic impact of implementing revised or new standards for Computer Science, Career and Technical Education, Library Media, Social Studies, and Technology Integration.

We would greatly appreciate additional responses to the surveys for each of the five sets of standards. We have shortened the surveys to save you time! Responses will be due by June 30, 2020.

Access the surveys on the K-12 Content Standards webpage:

#### [Career and Technical Education](#)

--[Economic Impact Survey](#)

--[Download this worksheet](#)

#### [Computer Science](#)

--[Economic Impact Survey](#)

--[Download this worksheet](#)

#### [Library Media](#)

--[Economic Impact Survey](#)

--[Download this worksheet](#)

#### [Social Studies](#)

--[Economic Impact Survey](#)

--[Download this worksheet](#)

#### [Technology](#)

--[Economic Impact Survey](#)

--[Download this worksheet](#)

Please contact Colet Bartow, [cbartow@mt.gov](mailto:cbartow@mt.gov), with any questions.

### **Looking for FREE Lesson Plans, Project Ideas, &/or Resources? Checkout CTE Online**

[CTE Online](#) ([cteonline.org](http://cteonline.org)) is a community of Career & Technical Educators who share curriculum resources, lesson plans, and general information—all for free.

CTE educators can create an account for free and select groups, or communities, to belong to based upon content taught by career cluster. Registered members can also participate in online professional development events.

Visit [cteonline.org](http://cteonline.org) to sign up for free and start exploring new materials and gathering new ideas. Also, be sure to check out [CTE Online's](#) CTE Distance Learning newsletter for additional lesson plans and e-learning opportunities.

### **Cengage Offers Free Access to Digital Learning Materials, Other Resources**

Cengage, an education and technology company, is offering free access to its digital learning materials and platforms, as well as other resources, for those impacted by COVID-19.

"The health and safety of our employees and customers around the globe are paramount. Millions of them have had their lives thrown into turmoil as a result of this unprecedented public health crisis," said Michael E. Hansen, CEO, Cengage.

"We want to do everything we can to support students and educators as they shift to online learning environments," Hansen continued. "Each of our businesses is taking a tailored approach based on the individual circumstances of their customers. For example, in the United States, we are giving college students at impacted campuses free access to our eTextbooks and digital courseware for the remainder of the Spring semester, regardless of whether their instructor uses Cengage materials. In K12, we are also offering free access to our learning platforms and eBooks."

At the K-12 level, [National Geographic Learning \(ngl.cengage.com/assets/html/covid19\)](http://ngl.cengage.com/assets/html/covid19) is providing all U.S. K12 teachers with free access to its learning platforms and eBooks. Additionally, Cengage is extending access where it is needed for current digital users and providing training and support for teachers transitioning to online teaching.

Visit [ngl.cengage.com/assets/html/covid19](http://ngl.cengage.com/assets/html/covid19) for more details and to request access to materials and resources.

### **Early-Bird Registration Now Open for ACTE's CareerTech VISION 2020 Conference in Nashville, December 2-5**

The Association for Career & Technical Education's ([acteonline.org](http://acteonline.org)) [CareerTech VISION 2020](#) conference will be held December 2-5, 2020, in Nashville, Tennessee, at the Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center.

Early-Bird registration is current open and will end July 10, 2020. The ACTE-member Early-Bird registration is \$395. After July 10, the rate increases to \$445.

Room rates at the Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center are \$198 plus taxes and fees. A link to book rooms will be provided within your VISION registration confirmation.

For complete CareerTech VISION 2020 details, visit [www.careertechvision.com](http://www.careertechvision.com).

### **New Perkins V Information Section Added to OPI CTE Website**

The Office of Public Instruction has a NEW Perkins V section on the [CTE webpage](#) to help you develop your Perkins V Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment for the upcoming 2020-2021 Perkins fiscal year.

This [link](#) will take you to the resources listed below.

There are several new posts:

--Are You Perkins V Ready? (A timeline to keep your district on track)

--A fillable-file Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment (CLNA) Manual. Please save your work as this will be uploaded to E-grants as the main section of your E-grant for coming year.

--Labor Market Dashboard designed by the Montana Department of Labor using Montana Career Pathways

- Montana's 16 Statewide Career Pathways website
- Templates for each pathway with possible course combinations
- New Work-based Learning Manual
- Course Codes to use when reporting Work-based Learning
- Dual credit courses for specific pathways and college campus contacts

Questions regarding Perkins V may be sent to Renee Erlandsen, [rerlandsen@mt.gov](mailto:rerlandsen@mt.gov), or call her at 406-994-6986.

### **Looking Ahead to June . . . Computer Science Professional Development Events in Great Falls, Billings, & Missoula**

Four computer science professional development courses for Montana's high school teachers have been announced for Summer 2020.

Generous stipends and travel support is available. To register, please visit <https://tinyurl.com/y5446nl6>.

If your registration is accepted, there is no additional fee for you to attend. A limited number of participants will receive travel support and stipends, so you may be responsible for covering the cost of travel if you do not receive funding. Outreach activities are required in order for you to receive the full stipend (details follow upon registration acceptance). Registrations completed by March 1, 2020 will receive priority consideration for funding.

**Mobile CSP** will be offered June 15-19, in Great Falls. Based on the College Board's emerging Advanced Placement (AP) Computer Science Principles curriculum framework for introductory computer science. Students learn programming and computer science principles by building socially useful mobile apps using MIT's App Inventor. Learn more about the Mobile CSP curriculum at [mobilecsp.org](http://mobilecsp.org). For questions, contact Stacy Dolder at [stacy\\_dolderer@gfps.k12.mt.us](mailto:stacy_dolderer@gfps.k12.mt.us).

Joy and Beauty of Computing (JBC) will be available June 15-19, in Billings. The course provides an overview of the world of computing, as well as a gentle introduction to computational thinking using the Python programming language. It examines the computing field and how it impacts the human condition, and introduces exciting ideas and influential people. This course can be taught for dual enrollment. Contact Jeff Braun, [jbrown@mtech.edu](mailto:jbrown@mtech.edu), with any questions.

Python Modules for Math and Science will be June 22-26, in Missoula. Learn how to integrate modules that emphasize Python programming and computational thinking into high school science and math classes. Modules are fully developed and ready to go. They vary in length and difficulty. Opportunities to develop custom modules for your own classes will be provided and supported. For questions or more information, contact Yolanda Reimer at [yolanda.reimer@mso.umt.edu](mailto:yolanda.reimer@mso.umt.edu).

Game Programming will take place June 22-26, in Missoula. The training will focus on 2D and 3D game development using **Unity**. Learn more about Unity at [unity.com](http://unity.com). Please contact Hunter Lloyd, [hunter.lloyd@montana.edu](mailto:hunter.lloyd@montana.edu), with questions or for more information.

### **Fun Facts and Trivia**

Durian is a spiny oval tropical fruit containing a creamy pulp.

There are 30 recognized species of Durian, at least nine of which produce edible fruit.

Origin of the Durian is thought to be in the region of Borneo and Sumatra, grows wild in the Malay peninsula, and was commonly cultivated in a wide region from India to New Guinea.

Four hundred years ago, Durian was traded across present-day Myanmar, and was actively cultivated especially in Thailand and South Vietnam.

Durian is related to breadfruit and jackfruit, which are used similarly throughout tropical Asia and the South Pacific.

Durian trees are large, growing to 80-160 feet in height depending on the species.

Durian trees have one or two flowering and fruiting periods per year, although the timing varies depending on the species, cultivars, and localities.

The Durian fruit can hang from any branch and matures roughly three months after pollination.

The fruit is spherical and six to eight inches in diameter and typically weighs two to seven pounds.

The color of its husk green to brown, and its flesh pale yellow to red, depending on the species.

The shell is covered with stout spines and contains five oval compartments, each filled with a cream-colored pulp in which are embedded one to five chestnut-sized seeds.

The unusual flavor and odor of the fruit have prompted many people to express diverse and passionate views ranging from deep appreciation to intense disgust.

Durian has a pungent odor, which has been compared to that of Limburger cheese; for this reason, the fruit is banned from public transportation in some places.

The Durian is regarded by many people in Southeast Asia as the “king of fruits.”

Durian provides plenty of vitamins like A, B complex, and C and minerals such as magnesium, potassium, manganese, and copper, as well as the amino acid tryptophan. It is also an excellent source of dietary fiber.

Durian fruit is used to flavor a wide variety of sweet edibles such as traditional Malay candy, ice kacang, dodol, lempuk, rose biscuits, ice cream, milkshakes, mooncakes, Yule logs, and cappuccino.

Although the Durian is not native to Thailand, Thailand is ranked the world’s number one exporter of Durian; Malaysia and Indonesia follow.

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*