Please Note: *There will not be a Wednesday Reader next week, November 25, as I will be on vacation all next week, November 23-27. Have a happy Thanksgiving.*

MCEE Hosting Next Teacher Talk Today, Wednesday, November 18 at 4 p.m.

In October, the Montana Council on Economic Education, MCEE, hosted their first teacher talk and learned all of the different models being offered in the classroom across the state from large schools to rural communities. There were a few common themes on the challenges of accountability along with limitations of technology.

However, the theme learned is that by connecting with one another, it was a reminder that you are not in this alone and there are opportunities to support one another.

It was a quick hour. (Yeah, we know, another hour of screen time is a lot to ask these days.)

MCEE wanted to build off the momentum and offer another Teacher Talk in November. This is open to any Montana educator teaching economics, personal finance and/or business.

The November Teacher Talk will be held Wednesday, November 18, from 4-5 pm. Please register to get the Zoom meeting details.

Join MCEE with an open mind and your experiences in the classroom and they bet you will find great value supporting your colleagues in this forum.

Thanks for the thoughtful conversation for the first Teacher Talk. This program will evolve based on feedback from teachers.

Scholarships Available to Support Participation in WBEA 2021 Conference

To help support professional development opportunities and leadership development of Business Educators within the western region, the Western Business Education Association (WBEA) in offering two scholarship opportunities for the upcoming WBEA 2021 Conference.

The WBEA First-Time Attendee Scholarship supports individuals who will be attending the WBEA conference for the first time when the conference is held February 12-14, 2021. Applicants must Applicants must: 1) Have never previously attended the annual WBEA conference; 2) Have served or be currently serving on the local State/Territory/Province (S/T/P) board; and 3) Attend the Professional Development Leadership Training (PDLT) session during the conference.

To learn more and to apply, download the WBEA First-Time Attendee Scholarship application.

The WBEA First-Time Attendee to the PDLT Scholarship supports WBEA members who will be participating in the Professional Development Leadership Training for the first time. The Professional Development Leadership Training (PDLT) is an opportunity to network, energize, and develop leadership skills. Sponsored by WBEA, the PDLT encompasses the Presidents-elect workshop, Membership Directors workshop, and leadership training. All Presidents-elect, Membership Directors, and those interested in leadership training are encouraged to participate in this workshop.

Download the WBEA First-Time Attendee to the PDLT Scholarship application to learn more and to apply.

WBEA Awards Program Accepting Nominations thru December 18

Now is the time to nominate and recognize a colleague through the Western Business Education Association (WBEA) awards program.

Nominations can be submitted for

--Outstanding Educator at the Middle School, High School, Post-secondary, or University level
--Outstanding Career & Technical Student Organization Advisor
--Distinguished Service
--Distinguished Service Award for a Company, or a Representative of a Company, or Legislator
--Communication Recognition
--Western Business Education Association Recognition Certificate

All details and application materials can be found on the WBEA website at wbea.info/awards.

For questions regarding the WBEA awards program, please contact WBEA Awards & Scholarship Director Joshua Fisher at jfisher@astoria.k12.or.us.

Deadline for WBEA Educational Opportunity Scholarship Extended to December 18

The Western Business Education Association encourages Business Educators working on an advanced degree to apply for the WBEA Educational Opportunity Scholarship.

The WBEA Educational Opportunity Scholarship is provided to help offset tuition costs for educators who are pursuing an advanced degree to support teaching in the area of Business Education. The amount of the yearly scholarship is determined each year according to availability of funds.

Eligible candidates must meet the following criteria:

--be a current member of an S/T/P and a member of WBEA/NBEA
--be currently engaged in the business/computer education profession in the Western Region
--register for and pass a credit class with a "C" grade or better
--provide proof of payment and a grade sheet or unofficial transcript upon completion of the class to the Professional Development Director

Complete scholarship details can be found on the WEBE website at wbea.info/professional-development.

The deadline to apply for the WBEA Educational Opportunity Scholarship is December 18.

For questions, please contact Joshua Fisher, WBEA Awards & Scholarship Director, at jfisher@astoria.k12.or.us.

The Prospects: 2021 High School Business Plan & Pitch Competition Now Open

Administered by the Montana Chamber Foundation, THE PROSPECTS is a virtual statewide entrepreneurship competition with scholarships, cash, and technology prizes for high school students with new ideas and existing small businesses. All entrants will have opportunities for mentoring and internships, apprenticeships, and work-based learning.

The Prospects is a collaborative initiative and platform for investing in our students by connecting them with business and community leaders. Students are encouraged to display their entrepreneurial spirit with products and services, innovative problem solving, and community or social improvements for

Montana (and beyond!). Statewide leaders will act as third-party judges, providing scores and choosing winners, as well as their recommendations, feedback, and potentially employment opportunities.

The submission portal opened on Monday, November 16, 2020, and will close at midnight (MST) on Friday, February 12, 2021.

For complete details about The Prospects competition, please visit montanachamber.com/prospects.

The Prospects competition is offered through partnerships between the Montana Chamber Foundation and Youth Entrepreneurs and sponsors First Interstate Bank, Montana State Fund, and Northwestern Energy.

Start Here From Anywhere & Explore Accounting—November Resource: Accounting for Good
Spark your students' interest in the not-for-profit world.

Gen Z (born between 1995 to 2010) is often referred to as the socially-conscious generation. Compared to previous generations, Gen Z is more willing to make their voice heard, fight for social issues and support organizations that share their beliefs. As this generation continues to move into the workforce, many will look for ways to combine their passions with their careers.

The not-for-profit sector is a great path for aspiring accountants to consider if they're set on making a social impact while also serving as an organization business leader. In this month's two-part activity, your students will learn more about the not-for-profit field and explore real accounting positions available today in their area of interest.

Download November's Accounting for Good: A Not-for-profit Career Exploration Activity.

Deadline for NGPF PAYBACK Challenge is Friday, November 20
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/1FAIpQLScF05CSvoNs5avqB9hQx6jeRHWLnP9RlrMSK2wvSsq6o0_LSQ/viewform

Cash Prizes
--National Grand Prize Winners: Two (2) at $2,500 each
--Honorable Mention Awards: 45 at $1,000 each

New Hour of Code Tutorials, Live Workshops, and Webinars from CodeHS

CSEdWeek 2020 is coming up on December 7-13. Engage your students with new Hour of Code tutorials and interactive workshops showing students how coding can be used to make a positive change in the world.

Register your class for a live Hour of Code workshop hosted by the CodeHS Team. Whether your class is remote or in-person, these workshops are a great way to get students excited about computer science.

Live Hour of Code Workshops include

--Coding for a Litter-Free Community: Monday, 12/7 @ 19 am MST
--Coding for Data Visualization: Tuesday, 12/8 @ 12 pm MST
--Coding in Music: Wednesday, 12/9 @ 9:30 am MST
--Supporting Artists with Code: Wednesday, 12/9 @ 11 am MST
--Turtle Graphics with Tracy the Turtle: Thursday, 12/10 @ 9 am MST
--Creating Virtual Worlds: Friday, 12/11 @ 11 am MST

For more details, visit the CodeHS 2020 Hour of Code Resources page.

Interested in running an Hour of Code workshop at your school? Join CodeHS for a free webinar to learn about their new Hour of Code tutorials, how to pick the right tutorial for your students, and tips on hosting a successful workshop.

The webinar will be held on Thursday, November 19 at 10 am MST. For more details, please visit the registration page.

CodeHS has 20+ Free Hour of Code Tutorials. Access a variety of free hour-long tutorials on CodeHS including creating virtual worlds, coding for data visualization, coding for music, building mobile apps, and more. Visit codehs.com/hourofcode to learn more and access lesson plans for your Hour of Code event.

Just in Time for CS Education Week, CodeBytes Mini-Lessons for a Virtual Hour of Code

The Hour of Code is a month away, happening this year from December 7-13, 2020, and Code.org is excited to announce 115 brand-new tutorials and lesson plans. Many activities were created with remote learning in mind to support the various classroom models taking place during this time.

This year, Code.org introduces CodeBytes, new mini-lessons for virtual classrooms Code.org hopes everyone can join them this year for CodeBytes, a brand new series of easy-to-digest, 20 minute interactive lessons that will stream twice daily during Computer Science Education Week, Monday through Friday, December 7-11. If you're planning for a classroom that's gone fully virtual, CodeBytes

are designed to fit smoothly into a distance learning plan. Episodes are tailored to different grade levels.

Whether students have a computer or a smartphone, they can interact with and tune-in to every episode. Each lesson is hosted by Code.org staff and blends computer science with real-world topics, including artificial intelligence and #CSforGood. Take a look at Code.org's planned activities, and add your favorites to your calendar so you do not miss out.

Explore endless computer science topics with brand-new tutorials. This year's activities dive into tons of different CS topics like AI, data processing, and app & game design, as well as programming concepts like events, loops, and variables

Students can explore the oceans with SciGirls, learn to code and meditate with CodeSpeak Labs, build a climate clock with Vidcode, or try out another of the 30+ new #CSforGood themed activities and lesson plans. See them all at hourofcode.com/learn.

No computer? No problem. Code.org has unplugged resources for students. Every student deserves to learn computer science regardless of what technology they have at home. A number of engaging new unplugged options from our partners at Google, Kodable, iRobot, and elsewhere are available to learners with low or no connectivity or limited device access.

Code.org has also created a printable Hour of Code Unplugged Activity Packet for ages 4-18. Please include these resources in your next communication to parents and caretakers so that your students can still join this global event.

To make this year's event even more engaging for students, try inviting a volunteer to speak to your classroom! Many volunteers are eager to help in-person or virtually and are also CS professionals who can speak about their career path.

Whether your students are learning in-person, at home, or a hybrid of both, Code.org hopes that these resources can make it simpler than ever to bring an Hour of Code to students of all ages. However you choose to participate, Code.org can't thank you enough for your effort and support.

WBEA 2021 Conference Going Virtual—Registration Open

The Western Business Education Association (WBEA) 2021 Conference will be held virtually, February 12-14, 2021.

Originally planned for Seattle, the 2021 Conference will continue to be hosted by the Washington State Business Education Association.

The NBEA-member registration rate for the 2021 Conference is $225 if submitted by December 4.

For complete conference details and to submit your registration, please go to wbea2021.com.

If you would like to submit an idea for workshop, the Call for Presentations is still open and can be completed at docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSft1qFRd7EeE9xVtIhrGx1HzURIdob4H6mV4A7i6Gkq_XIgWQ/viewform. The deadline to submit is December 1.

Invitation to Tryout Montana Workforce Connections Beta Website

The Montana Department of Labor and Industry has partnered with Chambers of Commerce across Montana to create a new website that will highlight unique job opportunities. Designed to focus on "Earn While You Learn" opportunities, they are asking businesses to think outside of the box and create jobs with benefits that entice high school students and young adults into the workforce. These might look like seasonal jobs that pay an added incentive bonus for completing the contract, housing stipends to offset rising housing costs, or paid training that leads to certifications.

This partnership would not be complete if they did not also focus on the intended users—students, educators, school counselors, and parents across Montana. This site will be free, easy to use, and provide the user access for opportunities across Montana; however, the site is not complete. Chambers and job services around the state are working to populate the site with workforce opportunities communities have to offer throughout Montana.

While those wonderful folks work on the industry side of the site, they would also love to have the forward-facing part of the site looked at and evaluated by the target users. So before the website goes live, everyone involved would like some teachers, students, counselors, and parents to all look at the beta version of the site and give feedback on the usability, the appearance, and anything that might be missing from the site. There is a simple evaluation form that will gather all the user input.

If you are willing to help out and make this website the best it can be to help Montana students make connections to the workforce, please let them know and all the information on how to access the site and evaluation will be provided.

Thank you for considering helping with this project. Any technical issues can be directed to Kimberly Hannon, coordinator for the project, at kimberly@missoulachamber.com or 406.544.2396.

$10,000 Scholarship Opportunity for Your Students from CSTA

The Computer Science Teachers Association & the Association for Computing Machinery are pleased to announce the application period is now open for the CSTA/ACM Cutler-Bell Prize in High School Computing.

If you are a 9–12 computer science educator who is working with high school seniors looking to continue their studies in computer science or technology, tell them to apply for the $10,000 CSTA/ACM Cutler-Bell Prize.

These funds will be provided to the university of their choice and they will be honored at CSTA's 2021 Virtual Conference. Up to four (4) scholarships will be awarded. The application period closes on January 12, 2021.

For complete scholarship details, please visit csteachers.org/page/csta-acm-cutler-bell-prize.

Perkins 2020 Secondary Rural Reserve Grant RFP

The Career & Technical Education unit of the Office of Public Instruction has been awarded some additional funds to help support Montana's smaller schools with additional Perkins dollars.

Purpose: To create career awareness, recruit, and retain students within a CTE Secondary Program of Study that leads to a high skill, high wage, or in-demand occupations.

Awards: Grants of up to $2,000 each will be available to Secondary Perkins eligible school districts who receive less than $5,000 in Perkins funding and are considered remote rural schools as defined by NCES.

Schools will have had to complete the Perkins Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment (CLNA) and Perkins E-Grant application as well.

More details are provided in the [Perkins Secondary Rural Reserve Grant application](#).

For more information please email Shannon.boswell@mt.gov.

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.

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)

Scholarships are available to support Montana teacher participation.

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.

Fun Facts and Trivia

Kokanee is the landlocked version of the sockeye salmon.

The name comes from the Okanagan language of the indigenous people of the Columbia Basin.

Kokanee salmon spend their entire life in fresh water.

Instead of migrating to the ocean, adult kokanees inhabit large lakes before returning to their natal streams or gravelly shorelines to spawn.

Like all Pacific salmon, kokanees die after spawning, the whole life cycle taking from three to seven years.

Although smaller than sockeyes, kokanees fight with the same powerful ferocity as their seagoing brethren.

Upon feeling the hook, a kokanee typically launches itself into the air for a series of twisting, acrobatic leaps, and the fish's swimming speed will test your reel's drag.

Until they spawn, kokanees are mostly silver, with a dark blue or silver back and small spots along the back and the tail.

Spawning fish undergo a remarkable transformation, as the body turns bright red and the head a dark green.

Male kokanees also develop a pronounced hump on the back and a fierce-looking hooked kype, or hook on the lower jaw.

Kokanees occur naturally, having evolved where sockeye populations were cut off from the sea by geography, and they share the same range as the sockeye: from California's Klamath River to Point Hope in northwestern Alaska.

In the Pacific Northwest, the original range stretched inland to Idaho and Montana, and there are also populations in Japan, Korea, and Russia.

Kokanees feed mostly on plankton, so they spend most of their time in open water, usually near the surface when the water is cool and in deep water during the summer.

Kokanee were first introduced into Montana in Flathead Lake in 1914 and are currently fairly widespread in the western half of the state on both sides of the Divide.

Kokanee can achieve sizes of 3 to 5 pounds, but 1-pounders are most common.

When fishing for kokanee, keepers range between 10 and 15 inches.

The size of kokanee in Montana waters is a function of two factors, their own population density and the abundance of their available food supply.

Lake Mary Ronan, a popular kokanee fishing destination in northwest Montana, serves as the egg source for Montana's hatchery-produced kokanee.

The eggs will hatch in December and eventually be distributed as 2-to3-inch kokanee in the spring into 28 Montana lakes.

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.

Eric Swenson
Business Education Specialist
Montana Office of Public Instruction
PO Box 202501
Helena, MT 59620-2501
406.444.7991
406.444.1373 (Fax)
eswenson@mt.gov

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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