WBEA 2023—Registration is Now Open, Submit to Present, Book Your Hotel Room

Registration is now open for the Western Business Education Association (WBEA) 2023 Conference. The early-bird MBEA/NBEA member rate is $250 and includes three meal functions—Friday's Vendor Reception, Saturday's Luncheon, and the Awards Banquet and Closing Session on Sunday. The early-bird rate ends January 15, 2023.

The conference will be held in Helena at the Best Western Plus Great Northern, February 16-20, 2023. Rooms can be booked at the Great Northern at the conference rate of $140. The rate includes breakfast each day, parking, and Wi-Fi.

Interested in being a part of the conference program? Have a lesson or resource you would like to share? Submit a Call for Presentations today. Breakouts sessions will be held Saturday and Sunday, February 18 and 19.

Please visit the WBEA 2023 Conference website for more details, including a schedule at-a-glance for planning purposes, a complete conference schedule, and information regarding vendors and sponsorships.

Highlands College Trades & Technology Day

Highlands College invites southwest Montana students to participate in the Trades and Technology Day, October 6 from 9:00 am-2:00 pm.

The Career & Technical Education career exploration day will be held on the Highlands College campus.

Hands-on activities will take place in automotive, construction, machining, welding, civil engineering, commercial driver's license pre-apprenticeship line, cybersecurity, and radiological technician.

In addition, industry representatives will be on hand to talk about training needed to pursue a career within their company.

Registration can be completed online at http://iam.mtech.edu/tradestechnologydayform.

For more information or questions, please contact Kinsley Rafish at krafish@mtech.edu or 406.496.4684.

Begin the New Year with New Ideas and New Opportunities from EVERFI

The 2022 2023 school year is in full swing and EVERFI is hoping for an outstanding year for your students and educators. There are some exciting updates EVERFI wants to share with you below and to remind you they are around to partner and support in any way we can. Check out what's new with EVERFI below.

Digital Promise Certifies EVERFI's K-12 Resources

Looking for proof that our resources are backed by research? Digital Promise recently awarded EVERFI with its prestigious Research-Based Product Design certification. In order to earn the certificate, EVERFI had to demonstrate that all resources:

--Have explicit connections to learning science research
--Are guided by theory of actions grounded in rigorous empirical research

Learn more about EVERFI's Digital Promise Certification

AVID Partners with EVERFI

Are you an AVID teachers looking for new resources? AVID is now incorporating EVERFI's free life skills resources into its collection of Week at a Glance lesson plans and advisory classes. Topics include personal finance, digital wellness & online safety. Teachers have immediate access to the new resources in MyAVID.

New Research Highlights Strength of Digital Wellness & Safety Resource

Want a research-backed resource that builds the skills needed to be safe and positive digital citizens? New research shows that Ignition: Digital Literacy.

--Leads to significant learning gains
--Helps prepare female students to combat social comparison

Want to read the research? Wish granted.

Want to bring Ignition to your STEM and advisory classes? Schedule a call to discuss next steps.

National Empowered Seal Announced on September 7

Have you heard about the Empowered Seal award? There were 794 districts awarded the seal last year for their commitment to embedding real world skills learning within their classrooms. Criteria for the seal is based on published research on effective prevention programs. In addition to being nationally recognized, students from Empowered Districts are eligible to compete for ten college scholarships in the exclusive Empowered Seal Scholarship.

Access the New CodeHS Project Catalog with over 100 Free Coding Projects

Access the new CodeHS Project Catalog with over 100 free projects in Java, JavaScript, Python, HTML, C++ and React Native. Projects range in difficulty, challenging students with open-ended assignments.

There are two ways to assign a project to your CodeHS course or sections.

From the Project Catalog:

1. Select the project
2. Click "Assign"
3. Choose the course or sections to assign it to

From your Assignments page:

1. Click "Add"
2. Select CodeHS Project
3. Choose a project to assign

Learn more about assigning additional projects to your students here.

To learn more about the New Project Catalog, register today for the webinar on September 21.

Intuit's Fall 2022 Social Innovation Challenge

Registration is now open for Intuit's Fall 2022 Social Innovation Challenge for students.

Give your students the opportunity to gain durable skills and build innovative solutions to challenges our society is facing today. Plus, winning teams will receive educational scholarships and other prizes!

[Learn more about the challenge](#).

Why is the Social Innovation Challenge important for your students?

Learn real-world skills. Students will learn design thinking techniques used by the most innovative founders & companies and add new durable skills to their resume and college applications.

Collaborate with teammates. Each team will work together to compete against other high school students across North America, building collaboration, communication, and problem-solving skills.

Create an innovative solution. Teams will identify potential customers, brainstorm, and test solutions they are passionate about, making a positive impact in their communities.

Prizes for the winners. Students can win up to $5,000 in educational scholarships in addition to other prizes and certification opportunities.

[Explore the challenge](#).

Greetings & Invite from Montana Business Education Association President Mandy Wichman

Hello and happy September! I hope your year is off to a productive start, your Perkins grant applications are done, and you're all ready to embark on a year of Career and Technical Education fun. The MBEA and the Montana ACTE have been working hard to plan the [Fall Institute](#) with our partners and sponsors. Join us at the Billings Hotel and Conference Center, October 20 & 21. You can expect a full slate of engaging activities geared toward workforce readiness, both within the whole MACTE sessions and in the division-specific time slots. If you get to Billings on Wednesday evening, the Montana Chamber of Commerce is planning a fun get together, details to be announced when they're finalized. The Chamber is also sponsoring the Networking Social on Thursday and has again hired massage therapists to provide 15-minute chair massages at the vendor fair. [Register here](#) and use Perkins funds to pay your fees and membership.

Specific to the MBEA, start the Institute off with a First-Time Attendees breakfast on Thursday to meet the Board and Chamber representatives. Eric will give his update with some interactive fun on Thursday at the 3:10 session. President-elect Jessica Goosen and President Mandy Wichman are working to plan an MBEA event Thursday evening, after the Montana ACTE Networking Social. Watch upcoming Wednesday Reader's for details. Friday kicks off with the MBEA business meeting at 8 am, followed by Sean Thomas with EVERFI at 9:30 am. We'll be looking at NGPF resources with Jessica Goosen and Terri Norman at 10:30 am and move smoothly into all things Stash 101, led by James Easton, to finish off the conference.

Please use [this nomination link](#) to nominate a teacher or ten for one of the MBEA's professional awards. This is an important piece of advocating for our programs and recognizing the accomplishments of our peers. Those chosen as winners this fall will move on to the Western region awards in February and MACTE awards next fall.

The MBEA board is looking for someone to come on board as the 2023 Vice President. This position moves through the rotation as President-Elect for 2024, President in 2025, and then Past President/Awards Chair during 2026. As President-Elect and President, this person will also be part of the Montana ACTE board, driving the planning for Fall Institutes of the future, traveling to the WBEA conference in February, and engaging the business teachers of Montana.

Anyone with questions should please reach out to President Mandy at mandy.wichman@hobson.k12.mt.us. Cheers to a great year!

MBEA Offering Fall Institute First-Time Attendee $cholarship

The Montana Business Education Association (MBEA) is offering a scholarship for Montana Business Educators attending the Montana ACTE Fall Institute for the first time this fall.

The scholarship will be awarded based on financial need and distance from the conference.

The deadline for scholarship application submissions is October 15, 2022. The 2022 Institute is being held in Billings on October 20 & 21 at the Billings Hotel and Convention Center.

Scholarship recipients will receive a check in the mail following attendance at the conference. Being present at the MBEA business meeting at 8:00 am on Friday, October 21 is mandatory.

Stock Market Game Registration for Fall Semester Open Now

Registration is open for teams for the Fall 2022 Stock Market Game which will run from October 3 to December 9, 2022.

Glacier Bancorp and their family of Montana Banks will sponsor all team fees, ($15/team) for all teams with two (2) or more students enrolled, maximum size is five (5) students per team.

Glacier Bancorp will also provide prize money to the top five (5) winning teams this semester. New this year, there will be two competitions, a high school region and a junior high age region. The top team in each region will receive $500.00.

You can learn more and register at stockmarketgame.org. New teacher and classroom resources have been added this year, the Montana Council on Economic Education (MCEE) hopes you can join them in expanding investor education with a chance to earn real money at no cost based on the generous sponsors.

For questions, please contact MCEE Executive Director Dax Schieffer at mcee@montanan.edu.

Registration Now Open for the Fall 2022 edition of the Big Sky Biz Sim

Montana's premiere student business simulation is back for the Fall Semester 2022. Registration is open for the Big Sky Biz Sim by First Interstate Bank with registration closing September 21 at 5 p.m.

This is an in-class business simulation where students make all of the operating decisions for their business to produce, sell, and distribute widgets.

The decision inputs are then matched against other teams competing across Montana for the highest stock market price at the end of eight quarters, (weeks in the simulation).

With the new partnership with First Interstate Bank, the game has been streamlined for teachers and modernized to manage against potential remote learning disruptions. The Biz Sim software and game has been in schools in Montana since 2000 with over 28,000 students participating with the support of the Montana State Chamber Foundation.

The Montana Council on Economic Education believes strongly in education through experiential learning. Students who participate will learn teamwork, communication, flexibility, problem solving, critical thinking and grit. All skills that will serve students and their future employers. When students experience the ups and downs of their profitability based on their decisions, they not only will be taught the fundamentals of managing a business, but set in a competition, the spark of entrepreneurship can be lit.

For additional information, resources, and registration, please visit the [Montana Council on Economic Education](#) website.

Registration is Now Open for the 2022 NICE K12 Cybersecurity Education Conference
[Early Bird Registration](#) for the 2022 NICE K12 Cybersecurity Education Conference is open now through October 15.

The [2022 NICE K12 Cybersecurity Education Conference](#) takes place on Monday and Tuesday, December 5-6, 2022, at the Marriott St. Louis Grand Hotel in St. Louis, Missouri. Pre-Conference Workshops will take place on Saturday and Sunday, December 3-4, 2022.

This year's event will provide education and learning tools that educators and schools can use immediately. The [2022 NICE K12 Conference](#) will be jam-packed with keynote speakers, presentations, panels, and break-out sessions covering five tracks:

--Track 1: Increasing Cybersecurity Career Awareness
--Track 2: Engaging Students Where Disciplines Converge
--Track 3: Stimulating Innovative Cybersecurity Educational Approaches
--Track 4: Promoting Cybersecurity Career Pathways
--Track 5: Promoting Cyber Awareness

The conference agenda will include over 30 LIVE programming sessions in St. Louis plus additional on-demand videos that will be available to attendees for three months post-event. There will be abundant networking opportunities including discussion boards, social groups, one-on-one meetups, and gamification built into the agenda.

Join your fellow educators, administrators, school counselors, students, and representatives from government and industry at what is sure to be an AWESOME event. The $275 [Early Bird Registration](#) pricing lasts only until October 15, 2022, so get your tickets now.

Back-to-School Resources from Scratch
This month, [Scratch](#) knows many of you are in the midst of back to school season. Between class planning, room decorating, and welcoming back students, it's a busy time. As the new year gets started, Scratch wants to share creative coding resources, videos, activity guides, and a special Twitter event to help you make this the most creative school year yet.

[Scratch for Educators](#): get started with Scratch. Whether you are brand new to Scratch or a seasoned creative coding educator, you will find valuable information about teacher accounts, tutorials, community resources, and more in the all-in-one Getting Started blog. [Check it out](#).

You're invited to join the Back to School #ScratchChat. On September 14 from 2-3 pm (MDT), join the Scratch Team [@Scratch](#) on Twitter for their first ever Back to School #ScratchChat. Throughout the hour, you can share with and learn from the global educator community about ways that they use Scratch and [ScratchJr](#) to empower learners of all ages.

Follow Scratch on YouTube. Have you checked out the Scratch Team [YouTube channel](#)? Stop by to find a treasure trove of resources: from recordings of dozens of Scratch Conference sessions to interactive project tutorials led by members of the Scratch Team. [Explore the channel](#).

Explore the Scratch activity guides. The [Ideas Page](#) is full of tutorials embedded right in the Scratch project editor! Encourage students to introduce themselves with Animate a Name, or bring themselves

into Scratch with Video Sensing. You can also download our free, printable Coding Cards for a physical version of the tutorials. Get started here.

Did you know? You can also find all of Scratch's tutorials in the Scratch app.

Getting started with ScratchJr. Are you using ScratchJr with younger learners this year? Visit the ScratchJr Activities page for tutorials to get your class started with creative coding. These activities will guide your learners through creating their own dance parties, animated conversations, and more. Get started here.

Perkins Grant Deadline Extension

For Perkins 2022-2023 grants, Superintendent Arntzen has graciously allowed an extension on the deadline to September 30, 2022. Grants will need to be completed and approved as quickly as possible to meet this new deadline.

In order to assist you with completing applications or making any corrections to returned applications the CTE Specialists will again be holding virtual office hours on Zoom September 6 through September 9, 2022 from 7 am to 4 pm. You can access that Zoom anytime during the day and one or more of the CTE team members will be available to help.

There are also resources on the OPI's Perkins V webpage to assist with applications.

--Application PowerPoint Guide
--Perkins Local Use of Funds
--Preliminary Allocation Awards
--Fillable CLNA Update Assessment Worksheet
--Perkins Liaison List
--Egrants Login
--Perkins Virtual Office Zoom Link

Computer Science Teachers Association Announces the New Montana Chapter

Montana now has a state-level chapter of the Computer Science Teachers Association (CSTA). CSTA Montana is a professional organization whose mission is to empower, engage, and advocate for K-12 teachers using computer science in their classrooms. As a member of CSTA Montana, you have the power to connect with over 19,000 CS teachers from around the globe as well as find strength in your local community here in Montana.

Basic membership in the Computer Science Teachers Association is free and provides access to all CSTA resources and events.

CSTA Montana will hold virtual and regional in-person meetings throughout the year to provide opportunities for networking, sharing resources, engaging in professional development, discussing best practices, and learning new content. The first virtual meeting will take place Wednesday, September 28, 4:30-6:30 pm (MDT). CSTA Montana hopes to see you there. More information will be shared regarding the agenda and the link for the virtual room as it gets closer. For now, please save that date.

CSTA Montana was recently approved by the national organization and have not yet fully set up their outreach technologies. Be sure to follow CSTA Montana on Twitter (@CSTAMontana) and check out the chapter site (montana.csteachers.org) for more information. If you know of any events or would like to share some amazing things you do, please let them know at Montana@csteachers.org, and they will push it out through social media.

CSTA Montana is very excited to continue the state-wide push for computer science education that began with the creation of the Montana CS Standards by creating Montana's largest computer science department. CSTA Montana hopes that you will find a home here and be able to share what you do and use the ideas that others share. CSTA Montana is here to support you in your professional goals.

NBEA Calls for 2023 Convention Session Proposals

The National Business Education Association (NBEA) 2023 Annual Convention will be held in Kansas City, April 3-6, 2023, and NBEA would like you to submit a proposal to present an educational session.

Chosen speakers will receive a $100 discount on the convention registration. Act fast, as NBEA experienced a substantial increase in the number of proposals at the last convention, and are expecting the same for 2023.

Make your proposal here or find out more about the 2023 convention at NBEA.org/Convention. The deadline to submit proposals is October 15, 2022.

Download Montana Business Ed Curriculum Resources Updated for 2022-2023

Several of files have been updated within the shared Montana Business Education Curriculum Resources Google Drive folder. You may bookmark the folder for future reference, bit.ly/MTBusEd22-23.

Updates include the Montana Business Education Planning Calendar for 2022-2023 (item #1 in the folder) and the Business Professionals of America and DECA competitive event crosswalks within the Framework for Business Education in Montana. You can download the complete Framework (item #3) or just the Framework CTSO Crosswalks for 2022-2023 (item #4).

Additionally, you can download the TEAMS K-12 Course Codes Business & Marketing Education Manual for 2022-2023 (item #5) and a copy of the TEAMS Participation Report Worksheet to map your courses with the correct course codes and list current enrollments to assist with your school's TEAMS data for this year. TEAMS will open September 1 for 2022-2023 school year data entry and close on November 1.

Please be sure all the data entered into TEAMS for your courses is correct as this data is used in part to determine Perkins and State CTE funding.

Resources & Simulations from Intuit for Accounting and Financial Literacy/Personal Finance

Are you teaching accounting or a financial literacy/personal finance course and are looking to connect students with some real-world applications? Intuit has resources and simulations you can use with your students for TubroTax, Mint, and QuickBooks.

Mint also comes with a downloadable Teacher Toolkits with curriculum and student activities.

Visit Intuit's Job Readiness and Education site today to get started.

2022-23 US Senate Youth Program Scholarships

The 2022-23 U.S. Senate Youth Program (USSYP) Scholarship application period opened on August 22, 2022, to Montana Juniors and Seniors who meet the USSYP qualifications.

Two students from Montana will be selected to receive one $10,000 scholarship each, along with a required Washington Week Program, March 4-11, 2023. Attending the entire Washington Week public service and leadership program and the college scholarship are one, inseparable award.

The application is now open on the [OPI Student Scholarships & Student Exchange webpage](#) and must be submitted electronically by 11:59 pm, October 3, 2022.

For questions, contact Kristen Bokovoy, USSYP Coordinator, at Kristen.Bokovoy2@mt.gov 406.444.2417.

Nominations now being accepted for MBEA Awards Program

The [Montana Business Education Association](#) (MBEA) is now accepting [nominations](#) for Outstanding New Business Teacher, Outstanding Business Teacher, Distinguished Service Award, and Lifetime Achievement Award.

Awards will be presented during the MBEA Business Meeting during the [Montana ACTE Fall Institute](#) in Billings. The MBEA Business Meeting will be held Friday morning, October 21, from 8-9:30 am at the Billings Hotel & Convention Center.

Nominations can be [submitted online](#). For questions about the nomination process, please contact MBEA Past President [Calie Wineinger](#).

TEAMS Virtual Work Sessions Scheduled for September and October

The Accreditation and Educator Preparation unit is offering [14 virtual work sessions](#) in September and October to assist with completing the Terms of Employment, Accreditation, and Master Schedule (TEAMS) report.

They are all via Zoom and you do not need to register beforehand. There are five (5) sessions intended for new users and nine (9) sessions for returning users that discuss FY2023 Updates.

The complete 2022-2023 TEAMS Virtual Work Sessions Schedule can be downloaded [here](#). The first session will be held September 19. The deadline to submit TEAMS data is November 1.

Applications for 2022-2023 Perkins Rural Reserve Grants Now Open

Applications for the [Montana Perkins Secondary Rural Reserve Grant](#) can be submitted for the 2022-2023 grant cycle. The purpose of this year's [Montana Perkins Secondary Rural Reserve](#) grant is 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.

There are currently 176 schools offering over 260 Career and Technical Education courses to students in grades 5-8 in our Montana schools. The most offered course is in career exploration. Since Montana does not receive enough funding to allow us to provide Perkins funding for middle school programs this year's Rural Reserve Grant will be to encourage pathway work for the middle grades.

Schools could use the funds to help:

--establish innovative delivery methods for career exploration
--expose students to employability skills earlier
--establish foundational elements for work-based learning
--improve transitions from middle grades into secondary Career and Technical Education pathways.

[Grants](#) of up to $5,000 each will be available to secondary Perkins eligible school districts to support CTE work in the middle grades (5-8). Schools will have had to complete the Perkins Comprehensive Local Needs Assessment (CLNA), and their E-Grant application must be approved for the 2022-2023 Grant cycle before applying.

Schools that were awarded in previous years are eligible to apply, however, preference will be given to new applicants. The 2022-2023 application can be downloaded from the CTE page of the OPI website under the Funding menu.

Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program

As an employee of a local public school system, you may qualify for the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) Program. PSLF is a federal program that forgives the remaining balance on direct loans after 120 qualifying monthly payments under a qualifying repayment plan while an individual is working full-time for a qualifying employer.

Last year, the U.S. Department of Education announced a time-limited waiver to allow borrowers to receive credit for past periods of repayment that would otherwise not qualify for loan forgiveness. Under the temporary waiver, any prior period of repayment counts as a qualifying payment, regardless of loan program, repayment plan, or whether the payment was made in full or on time, provided the employment requirements are satisfied.

The waiver is only available for a limited time. The deadline to submit the PSLF Application for the waiver is October 31, 2022. Individual employees are responsible for submitting all necessary forms to the U.S. Department of Education. Requests for employment certification should be directed to campus human resources.

More information, including a handy Help Tool to determine eligibility and FAQs about the PSLF program, is available here.

Adobe MAX 2022 Again Offering a Virtual Option (for FREE) if you can't get to LA

Adobe MAX: The Creative Conference will be held October 18-20 in Los Angeles; however, Adobe is again offering a virtual option.

For the in-person option in LA, educators can register for $1295 and students for $299. The LA conference will be held at the Los Angeles Convention Center with several hotel options.

The virtual option is being offered for FREE and includes 100+ online sessions, mainstage presentations, luminary sessions, and shop and sponsor giveaways.

Visit the Adobe MAX site for complete details and to register. If you participate in Adobe MAX, be sure to work with your district/school to receive OPI renewal units.

Fun Facts & Trivia

Bambi is the life story of a fawn who grows up, with friends Thumper, the rabbit, and Flower, the skunk, to be the Great Prince of the Forest.

MGM filmmaker Sidney Franklin purchased the screen rights to the *Bambi* novel in 1933, but soon realized a live-action film with an all-animal cast would be too challenging to achieve.

Believing that only the artistry of Disney animation could fully bring this gentle story to life, Franklin contacted Walt in 1935 to encourage him to make the film instead.

Bambi premiered in London on August 9, 1942 and was released in the U.S. on August 13, 1942.

The animated feature film was based on the novel *Bambi: A Life in the Woods* by Austrian writer Felix Salten, the pen name of Siegmund Salzmann.

The voice of Bambi was provided by four different artists to mimic changes in voice as a boy grows to adulthood.

The film had been put into production as work on Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs was winding down.

The story of Bambi was different from anything else Disney Studios had ever attempted as it was more serious, and all the characters were animals.

In striving for realism, the artists heard lectures from animal experts, made field trips to the Los Angeles Zoo, watched specially filmed nature footage shot in the forests of Maine, and even studied the movements of two fawns that were donated to the Studio.

The work was meticulous; even taking care to see that the spots on the fawn's back remained constant meant fewer drawings could be finished in a day.

Bambi was released at a difficult time, with the United States deep in World War II, so its initial profits were low, but the story of the little deer coming of age has endured, and today, *Bambi* is universally regarded as one of Walt Disney's most charming films.

The film received Academy Award nominations for Best Sound, Best Song for "Love Is a Song", and Best Scoring of a Dramatic or Comedy.

Long before the direct-to-video production, *Bambi II* (2006), a sequel based on Felix Salten's second book, *Bambi's Children*, was actually in development after the release of the original film, but ultimately it was never produced.

Bambi's Children became a Disney comic book (Four Color #30, October 1943) drawn by Ken Hultgren and featured the Prince's fawns, Geno and Gurri.

In 1944, Walt Disney permitted the USDA Forest Service to use Bambi and his woodland friends in a forest-fire prevention campaign pre-dating their famous Smokey Bear character.

Bambi could not be used in the following campaigns because Bambi had been loaned for only one year, so the Forest Service needed to find an animal that would be the property of the Cooperative Forest Fire Prevention Campaign, leading to the creation of Smokey Bear.

In 2006 and again in 2010, Walt Disney's little deer returned to appear in new "Protect Our Forest Friends" anti-wildfire Forest Service campaigns.

In 2011, the Library of Congress added *Bambi* to the National Film Registry to be preserved as a cultural, artistic, and historical treasure.

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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Learning that works for Montana
CTE™

"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