

# Membership Director's Report

Montana Business Education Association Business Meeting

2009 Big Sky Pathways Institute

Billings, Montana

October 14-16, 2009

*Prepared by Eric Swenson, MBEA Membership Director*

The Montana Business Education Association serves as the professional association for business, marketing, and information technology educators in Montana at all levels—middle school, high school, and post secondary. MBEA continues to remain membership healthy and active. Our membership numbers continue to improve within both of our associated organizations: Association for Career & Technical Education/Montana ACTA and the National Business Education Association (NBEA).

MBEA is an affiliated division of the Montana Association for Career and Technical Education (Montana ACTE); therefore, MBEA members must also be Montana ACTE members. This has been the policy for many years, but was not enforced or clearly understood until MBEA and Montana ACTE worked together to clarify the relationship between MBEA and Montana ACTE. To help bring all MBEA members into alignment with the affiliated division status, MBEA adopted the ACTE/Montana ACTE membership form beginning with the start of the 2008-2009 school year. This makes paying dues for all three organizations quick, easy, and can be done online. Current membership dues are \$15.00 for MBEA, \$25.00 for Montana ACTE, and \$60.00 for ACTE. When indicating your ACTE division membership, you may mark either Business Education or Marketing Education as your primary division.

Membership dues are no longer paid via a MBEA/MBITE membership form as in the past, nor will dues be submitted to MBEA membership director or treasurer. All membership dues, and membership renewals, will be through ACTE. Dues can be renewed with your Big Sky Pathways Institute registration, via the renewal form ACTE will send to your email address, or online. A link to the ACTE's online membership area can be found on the Montana ACTE website's home page ([www.montanaacte.org](http://www.montanaacte.org)).

Speaking of email, please make sure your member record with ACTE is up-to-date and contains your correct mailing address and your correct email address. ACTE, Montana ACTE, and MBEA use this information for contacting members and if either is incorrect or missing, you are not able to take advantage of all of your membership privileges.

Some of those privileges include the MBEA and Montana ACTE newsletters and discounted rates on Montana ACTE and MBEA sponsored professional development opportunities. For example, the past two years MBEA has offered scholarships for members to the MBEA Summer Update.

ACTE is offering a special for student members—ACTE is waiving the membership fee for those who meet the student membership criteria. Students can join ACTE, Montana ACTE, and MBEA for only \$7.50 (\$5.00 for MBEA and \$2.50 for Montana ACTE student membership dues). What a great bargain!!

Currently, MBEA stands at 81 members.

Our Montana membership in NBEA also continues to remain strong. Again, MBEA has surpassed the goal NBEA has set for members in Big Sky Country. Our NBEA goal for 2009-2010 is 54, and currently there are 57 Montana members in NBEA. Additionally, there are nine NBEA students members from Montana. Congratulations Montana!

NBEA membership dues are \$80 for professionals and \$40.00 for students.