

The Wednesday Reader

*Zepp*tember 21, 2011

Four fonts walk into a bar. The bartender looks at them and says "Please get out, we don't serve your type in here."

Accepting Nominations to Superintendent's Student Advisory Board

High school administrators and school counselors are invited to nominate up to two high school students to serve on Denise Juneau's [Superintendent's Student Advisory Board](#) for the 2011-2012 school year. The State Superintendent's office is currently seeking 25 new students to fill positions on the Student Advisory Board.

Last Fall, 40 students were named from 31 Montana high schools to the first-ever State Superintendent's Student Advisory Board. This group of remarkable students did an outstanding job representing their peers in the state and reflected the strength and diversity of viewpoints and experiences that make Montana great.

Board members convened for two summits in the Fall and Spring. At the summits, the Board discussed pressing issues facing education in Montana today and advised me on the topics of graduation and school climate. Summaries of the summits can be found [here](#).

The Student Advisory Board is part of Superintendent Juneau's initiative, Graduation Matters Montana. The objectives of Graduation Matters Montana are to: (1) increase the rate of Montana students graduating from high school ready for college and the 21st century workplace; (2) establish a support network between schools, businesses and community organizations for student success; and (3) create school-based and community-based opportunities to inspire students to stay in school and graduate.

The purpose of the Student Advisory Board is for students to provide their opinions about the challenges Montana students face and to give Superintendent Juneau suggestions about how more Montana students can earn their high school diploma. The advice and feedback are taken very seriously and their ideas have been incorporated into initiatives and advocacy for public schools.

Nomination Guidelines

The selection committee is looking for a Student Advisory Board comprised of students who:

1. Are currently enrolled in a Montana public high school,
2. Represent a mix of high schools in both urban and rural locations,
3. Represent an even mix of gender, and
4. Represent a mix of all high school grade levels

The committee is also looking for students who have unique but relevant perspectives. Please consider students who may be at risk of dropping out of school, have reenrolled after dropping out or who attend an alternative school. All students who are nominated should be motivated and highly interested in the purpose of the Student Advisory Board and able to actively participate as a board member.

[Click here to nominate a student](#). Nominees will then be asked to [fill out a brief application](#). The deadline to submit an application is September 30, 2011.

The Office of Public Instruction will announce the new members of the Student Advisory Board on October 10, 2011.

If you have any further questions, please contact Deborah Halliday at 406.444.3559 or dhalliday@mt.gov.

Registration is Now Open for the Virtual Team Challenge

Teachers, registration is under way for the Fall 2011 Virtual Team Challenge and competition begins in roughly 4 weeks. Now is the time to register and engage your students in a Virtual 3D Business World.

The Virtual Team Challenge is an entirely **FREE** online, multiplayer business simulation—sponsored by [Deloitte](#)—taking place in the animated 3D world of New City. The team objective in the simulation is to help the mayor stage the most efficient oil spill recovery effort. Top-performing teams are eligible for prizes for themselves, their teachers, and local charities!

Virtual Team Challenge will run this Fall from October 3-November 10. (See an article in [The New York Times](#) to read about one New Jersey teacher's success with the program.)

Virtual Team Challenge comes complete with lesson plans and in-class exercises which form a curriculum that highlights general business acumen, business ethics, negotiation skills, decision-making processes and accounting while placing a special emphasis on important life/career skills such as teamwork, communication, professionalism and research methods.

Register now at www.virtualteamchallenge.com/

Next Week is the Deadline to Register for the 2011-2012 Big Sky Pathways Initiative Workshops

Registration for the Big Sky Pathways 2011 Phase II Next Steps workshops closes Friday, September 30.

While attendance is not required, the work to be completed during the workshops will provide schools with the information and starting point to begin preparing for the upcoming requirements which will be implemented following the reauthorization of Perkins. Currently, schools/districts are required to have at least one Pathway, or Program of Study. In the next reauthorization, schools/district will have to provide proof of a Rigorous Program of Study in order to receive Perkins funding. By participating in the workshops this fall, schools/districts will be able to gain the tools and start the development and documentation of a Rigorous Program of Study. Please note, the work will not be started and finished during the workshop; however, attendees will be able to start the required work, ask questions, gain advice, and have access to examples and resources.

When selecting the location to attend for the workshops, please be sure to select the location where you will be able to work with the same postsecondary partners as last year. If you are not able to attend the location necessary to work with the same postsecondary partner as last year, please let me know and I will assist you in selecting an appropriate alternative. If this is your first year working on a Pathway, please refer to the list of [Big Sky Pathways by College](#). Be sure to register based upon desired Pathway and not location.

One important item to note is these workshops are designed for schools to participate in at **no cost to the district**. Through state-level Perkins funds the costs for substitutes, mileage, hotel rooms, and per diem will be covered. Hotel rooms will be directly billed to the college you are partnering with and your partner college will also provide the reimbursement for mileage and per diem. An invoice will be sent to your district clerk/business manager after registration closes to indicate mileage and the amount to be reimbursed for substitutes. The invoice must be brought to the workshop and given to the college representative in order for reimbursements to be processed.

Additionally, one (1) graduate-level credit will be available (at participant expense) from MSU-Billings as well as OPI Renewal Units.

To [Register](#) please go to the [Big Sky Pathways website](#) at <http://mus.edu/wd/Assets/BigSkyPathways/BigSkyPathways.asp> and select the appropriate location under the Workshop Registration Pages/Links heading.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Locations, Colleges, and Dates for the Big Sky Pathways Initiative's Next Steps Workshops

Location	Participating Postsecondary Partners	Dates
Great Falls	MSU-Great Falls College of Technology	October 10 & 11
Havre	MSU-Northern	October 12 & 13
Kalispell	Flathead Valley Community College	October 26 & 27
Billings	MSU-Billings College of Technology	November 7 & 8
Miles City	Miles Community College & Dawson Community College	November 9 & 10
Missoula	UM-Missoula College of Technology	November 14 & 15
Helena	UM-Helena College of Technology	December 5 & 6
Fairmont Hot Springs	Montana Tech College of Technology & Gallatin College Programs	December 7 & 8

To register, please go to <http://mus.edu/wd/Assets/BigSkyPathways/BigSkyPathways.asp>. Registrations must be received by Friday, September 30, 2011.

Did You Miss the Big Sky Pathways Initiative's Next Steps Webinar Held Tuesday, September 13?

If you were not able to participate in the informational Webinar regarding this fall's Big Sky Pathways Next Steps workshops, here are links to the Webinars associated resources:

- The recording of the webinar (about 40 minutes): <http://connect.opi.mt.gov/p2u35dsg2eg/>
- The PowerPoint Presentation: <http://mus.edu/wd/Assets/BigSkyPathways/PPT.pptx>
- A PDF of the PowerPoint slides with notes: <http://mus.edu/wd/Assets/BigSkyPathways/PI1ppt.pdf>
- Questions and Answers from the Webinar:
<http://mus.edu/wd/Assets/BigSkyPathways/BigSkyPathwaysFAQs.asp>
- The Big Sky Pathways Webpage: <http://mus.edu/wd/Assets/BigSkyPathways/BigSkyPathways.asp>

These links will help you to get up to speed on this exciting initiative. Make sure to bookmark the Big Sky Pathways Webpage as the site is updated frequently.

Getting Ready for Transition to Proposed Montana Common Core Standards

The first in a series of presentations developed by the Office of Public Instruction to provide information and resources for the transition to the proposed Montana Common Core Standards and assessment system aligned to those standards has been posted on MontCAS Presents. The PowerPoint with notes are also available for you to use.

The link to MontCAS Presents, Gettin Ready Presentation and Power Point document with Notes:

http://www.opi.mt.gov/Curriculum/MontCAS/MontCAS_Presents.html#p7GPc1_5

For more information about the Montana Common Core Standards proposal, please contact

Jean Howard, Mathematics
Curriculum Specialist
jhoward@mt.gov
(406) 444-0706

or Judy Snow, State Assessment Director
jsnow@mt.gov
(406) 444-3656

2011-12 Virtual Business Scholarship Application is Now Available Online

[Knowledge Matters](#), the maker of Virtual Business simulations, is pleased to announce the annual [Virtual](#)

[Business Scholarship](#). Business, marketing and personal finance students currently enrolled in their junior and senior years of high school throughout the United States are eligible for the 2011-12 Virtual Business Scholarship.

The applications will be judged nationally and the winner will receive \$2,000. Application submittals are due by April 1, 2012.

The application is accessible at: www.KnowledgeMatters.com/scholarships.

If you have any questions, please contact Maureen Ginley via email at Ginley@KnowledgeMatters.com or toll-free at (877)965-3276.

Montana Business Education Association/Montana ACTE Institute Registration Open

Join your fellow Montana business and marketing educators as they gather in Great Falls for the [2011 Montana ACTE Institute](#) October 20 and 21 at the Best Western Heritage Inn.

The Institute will feature more than 16 breakout sessions, more than 15 exhibitors, the Montana ACTE silent and live auction, the 2011 Montana ACTE Awards Program, and a networking social.

The Institute's [registration form](#) can be downloaded from the [Montana ACTE website](#) (www.montanaacte.org) or directly with the following link: <http://www.montanaacte.org/documents/registration.pdf>. Registration Confirmations/receipts will be sent via email.

Early-Bird Registration ends October 1, so don't delay, register today.

Discover new approaches, find solutions to your shared challenges, share your best practices with colleagues and leave with constructive new ideas to take back to your school. You'll gain valuable insights and proven strategies that will improve your programs and increase student achievement in your district as well as assist you in implementing Big Sky Pathways in your district. For more information, including hotel reservations, please visit the [Professional Development](#) page of the [Montana ACTE website](#), www.montanaacte.org.

American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) Launches Enhanced Educators' Portal

The [Start Here, Go Places.](#)[®] team has been working hard over the summer to make some great enhancements to our [Educators' Portal](#).

We are happy to formally announce the launch of the newly-enhanced Educators' Portal for high school and community college educators and guidance counselors. Officially launched on August 17, the new portal features a sleek new design, easier navigation, improved features and even incentives for becoming an active and engaged member of the portal.

Use the Educators' Portal to have discussions with fellow educators from across the country, ask for help, request classroom materials and make direct connections with the AICPA and your local state CPA society.

Once logged in, you can navigate to any one of the four main sections: Classroom Curriculum, Educators' Forum, Career Resources and Conferences & Events.

The [Classroom Curriculum](#) section hosts several series of lesson plans, including student worksheets, facilitator answer keys and grading rubrics. This is a secure/locked down section of the portal for educators who request access, and are verified in order to ensure that only current educators are granted access to this exclusive section. Another locked down section only for current educators is the [Educators'](#)

[Forum](#). This section offers educators a secure community to share ideas, receive classroom advice and share best practices with colleagues across the country.

In the [Career Resources](#) section, educators, as well as other portal members, have access to classroom presentation materials, college and university information, CPA exam information and more. The [Conferences & Events](#) section is a place for AICPA staff, state society ACD staff and Start Here, Go Places. partners to post events being held for students and educators.

With these enhancements completed, and more in the works, the AICPA invites you to utilize this site for all of your information and resources related to the CPA profession.

For more information on the Educators' Portal, contact the AICPA at StartHereGoPlaces@aicpa.org.

Here's to a great school year,
[Start Here, Go Places.](#)

On This Day in History . . .

Zeptember 21

1780: During the American Revolution, American General Benedict Arnold meets with British Major John Andre to discuss handing over West Point

to the British, in return for the promise of a large sum of money and a high position in the British army. The plot was foiled and Arnold, a former American hero, became synonymous with the word "traitor."

1985: George Clooney makes his first appearance on the TV sitcom *The Facts of Life* as George Burnett

1986: The National Inquirer Magazine featured a picture of Michael Jackson in an oxygen chamber with a story claiming Jackson had a bizarre plan to live until he was 150 years old

Zeptember 22

1961: President Kennedy signs Peace Corps legislation

1985: The first "Farm Aid" concert is held in Champaign, Illinois

1990: Nirvana played their biggest gig to date (15,000 people) when they appeared at the Motor Sports International Garage in Seattle.

1994: The television sitcom *Friends* debuts on NBC

Zeptember 23 (*Autumn Begins . . . beware of the Equinox*)

1806: American explorers Meriwether Lewis and [William Clark](#) return to St. Louis, [Missouri](#), from the first recorded overland journey from the

[Mississippi River](#) to the Pacific coast and back.

1846: German astronomer Johann Gottfried Galle discovers the planet [Neptune](#) at the Berlin Observatory.

1875: Billy the Kid is arrested for the first time after stealing a basket of laundry

1949: Bruce Springsteen is born

1971: Led Zeppelin played the first of two nights at The Budokan Hall, Tokyo, Japan.

Zeptember 24

1789: The Judiciary Act of 1789 is passed by Congress and signed by President George Washington, establishing the Supreme Court of the United States

1948: Motorcycle builder Soichiro Honda incorporates the Honda Motor Company in Hamamatsu, [Japan](#).

1988: Bobby McFerrin started a two week run at No.1 on the US singles chart with *Don't Worry Be Happy*

Zeptember 25

1789: The first Congress of the United States approves 12 amendments, known as the Bill of Rights, to the U.S. Constitution, and sends them to the states for ratification

1957: Under escort from the U.S. Army's 101st Airborne Division, nine black students enter all-white Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas
1965: The Beatles cartoon series premiered on ABC TV in the US.
1970: In the 8:30 p.m. time slot immediately following *The Brady Bunch*, ABC premiered *The Partridge Family*
1981: Sandra Day O'Connor becomes the first female U.S. Supreme Court justice in history
1982: Queen made a guest appearance on US TV's Saturday Night Live, where they performed 'Crazy Little Thing Called Love' and 'Under Pressure'

Zeppentember 26

1948: Olivia Newton-John is born
1960: For the first time in U.S. history, a debate between major party presidential candidates is shown on television between presidential hopefuls, John F. Kennedy, a Democratic senator of Massachusetts, and Richard M. Nixon, the vice president of the United States, in Chicago
1964: Roy Orbison started a three week run at No.1 on the US singles chart with 'Oh Pretty Woman'.
1969: The Brady Bunch premiers on ABC

Zeppentember 27

1779: The Continental Congress appoints John Adams to travel to France as minister plenipotentiary in charge of negotiating treaties of peace and commerce with Great Britain during the Revolutionary War
1939: 140,000 Polish troops are taken prisoner by the German invaders as Warsaw surrenders to the superior mechanized forces of Hitler's army
1964: The Beach Boys made their TV debut on 'The Ed Sullivan Show' on US TV where they performed 'I Get Around' and 'Wendy'
1971: Led Zeppelin appeared at the Shiei Taikukan Hall in Hiroshima, Japan

DECA/DeVry Deadline Quickly Approaching

The DECA/DeVry Innovation & Entrepreneurship Challenge deadline is Monday, October 3.

Students are asked to present their project to DeVry faculty, administrators and executives via videos posted on YouTube.

Additional details can be found on the DECA.org website or directly at <http://www.deca.org/events/62/>.

Register Students Today for Opportunities Tomorrow

If you are interested in any DECA Conferences (New York Experience, Sports & Entertainment Conference, etc.), please remember all students attending must be registered and paid through the Online Membership System prior to their Conference Registration.

If you have any questions concerning the new online system, please contact Erin at erinweisgerber@yahoo.com.

Montana BPA Advisor Manual Updates

During the spring and summer, many of the files of the [Montana Advisor Manual](#) were revised and/or updated.

All of the files for the [Montana Advisor Manual](#), including a binder cover and spine label and table of contents, can be downloaded from the [Advisor Manual section](#) of the [Montana BPA Website](#) (<http://www.bpamt.org/>).

The [Advisor Manual](#) section of the [Montana BPA Website](#) also includes preliminary details for the 2012

State and National Leadership Conferences.

Check out the [Montana BPA Website](#) and download your revised and/or updated files of the [Montana Advisor Manual](#).

Register Your BPA Membership Today

The Business Professionals of America Online Membership Registration System opened on Friday, August 26. Register your chapter members today and prepare to *Reach New Heights* with BPA during the 2011-2012 school year.

To access the online membership registration system please go to <http://www.registermychapter.com/bpamem/> and enter your username and password.

Membership dues for this year are \$12.00 per member/advisor for National-level dues and \$8.00 for State-level dues.

If you do not remember your username and/or password or if you are taking over as a chapter advisor please let me know and I will email you the information.

Please note members must be registered by November 1 and all members must be registered in order to compete at the regional, state, and national levels.

The 2012 Business Professionals of America WSAP is Ready for Download

The [Workplace Skills Assessment Program 2012 Download Center](#) is now open. The [WSAP Guidelines](#) for each division have been published, along with related documents.

Members and advisors can also download the documents individually. However, be sure to download the WSAP Guidelines in full to review the 2012 general info, guidelines, and deadlines.

The Workplace Skills Assessment Program 2012 Download Center, is available under the Compete tab of the National BPA website, www.bpa.org, or directly at <http://www.bpa.org/compete/eventdownload>.

Montana BPA 2011 Design Contests Looking for the Creative & Inspired Montana BPA Members

Again this year the Montana association of Business Professionals of America is inviting all Montana BPA members to submit entries for the three design competitions: [NLC Trading Pin](#), [State Conference Program Cover](#), and [Montana BPA T-Shirt](#).

Contest details, design specifications, and submission dues dates and procedures can be found on the [Advisor Manual page](#) of the Montana BPA website (www.bpamt.org).

Montana BPA Fall Advisor Meetings

Below are the dates, locations, and contacts for the various Montana BPA fall advisor meetings. If you have a BPA chapter and have not heard from your regional coordinator, please be sure to get in touch with the coordinator. If you are a business teacher and are interested in starting chapter this year, or just want to learn more, please contact the region's coordinator or myself (eswenson@mt.gov) and I will help get you to the right person.

<u>Region</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Coordinator</u>	<u>Email</u>
1 (Northwest)	Wed.,	Flathead Valley	Ron Hanson,	ron.hanson@ronank12.edu
2 (Western)	September	CC, Kalispell	Ronan	jamietoivonen@gmail.com
3 (North-central)	28	UM University	Jamie	cstone@moore.k12.mt.us

4 (Southwest)	Wed.,	Center, Missoula	Toivonen,	kerri.cobb@bsd7.org
5 (South-central)	October 5	LaQuinta Hotel,	Superior	rswood@livingston.k12.mt.us
6 (Musselshell- Yellowstone)	Friday, October 7	Great Falls Bozeman High,	Carolyn Stone, Moore	natalieschaff@yahoo.com julie.odell@hardin.k12.mt.us
7 (Southeast)	<i>Held Tues.</i>	Bozeman	Kerri Cobb,	estedman@sidney.k12.mt.us
8 (Northeast)	<i>Sept. 20</i> Wed., October 5	The Grand, Big Timber	Bozeman Regina Wood, Park High	
	TBA	TBA	Natalie Schaff,	
	TBA	Durums,	Roundup	
	Wed., October 5	Glasgow	Julie O'Dell, Hardin Elaine Stedman, Sidney	

The BPA Facebook 31-Day Challenge—Starting October 1

BPA is having its first ever Facebook 31-Day Challenge! For each day of October in 2011, starting with October 1, 2011, we'll have a different Facebook challenge for you to meet by posting on the [BPA Facebook Wall](#). Each day is a challenge to post something particular on the [Business Professionals of America Facebook page](#). (Which means you'll have to [become a fan of our page](#) to participate.)

The challenges get more difficult with each day and could include just a sentence, a photo, or something more creative. The challenges were thought up by your National Officer team. [Click here for the full list of challenges](#). (And start preparing for the hard ones!) Show your school, state and BPA pride by being a part of the BPA 31-Day Challenge!

Prizes

For each day, the creator of the best wall post of the day (as judged by our officers) will receive a piece of BPA swag. (Examples of prizes could include laptop skins laptop sleeves, BPA flip flops, old NLC pins, and more).

The single best overall collection of posts by one person at the end of the month as judged by the National Officer team will receive a FlipCam HD!

Finally, every member who posts for every single challenge (all 31!) will receive a to-be-announced gift from the National Center. (On this page each day we'll list the members who are still in the running!)

Only posts made on the correct day will count. Do not make posts early or late.

It's so easy to get started. Just [log on](#) starting October 1 and meet the challenge. You'll be hooked!

[Click Here to View the Full Details, Rules and List of Challenges.](#)

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