

## The Wednesday Reader

### *Leap Day, 2012*

*Please note: There will not be a Wednesday Reader on March 14 due to the Montana BPA State Leadership Conference.*

#### **Career and Technical Education (CTE) Spring Data Collection**

The Career and Technical Education (CTE) Spring Data Collection begins March 1, 2012 and ends April 27, 2012. High schools need to identify all students in grade 12 who were enrolled at any point during the current 2011-2012 school year and have met the definition of a CTE Concentrator.

CTE Concentrators are high school 12th graders who have earned three (3) or more credits in any CTE Area of Concentration. Courses that students are currently enrolled in count toward credits earned. Students meeting the CTE Concentrator definition must have the Concentrator box checked and an Area of Concentration entered into the AIM/Infinite Campus system. If the student has a child or shares parenting of a child, the Single Parent box should also be marked. All schools who receive funding from the Carl D. Perkins federal grant program must complete this CTE Spring Data Collection.

Instructions for completing the CTE Spring Data Collection can be found inside the 'Data Collections' tab on the Secondary CTE web page located at this link: [http://www.opi.mt.gov/programs/CTAE/CTE.html#gpm1\\_6](http://www.opi.mt.gov/programs/CTAE/CTE.html#gpm1_6). Questions regarding this data collection should be directed to the AIM Helpdesk at 1-877-424-6681 or [opiainhelp@mt.gov](mailto:opiainhelp@mt.gov).

Questions regarding CTE programs and/or the Carl D. Perkins federal grant program should be directed to Diana Fiedler at 406.444.9019 or [dfiedler@mt.gov](mailto:dfiedler@mt.gov).

#### **Leap To It & Submit Your 2011-2012 Participation Reports & Course Descriptions Today**

Any high school district planning to apply for Carl D. Perkins and/or State VoEd funding for the 2012-13 school year must submit Participation Reports by all CTE teachers for all CTE programs at your high school. Please make sure that each CTE teacher completes their report and electronically submits it to the OPI by today's due date of Wednesday, February 29, 2012.

The 2011-2012 Career and Technical Education (CTE) Student Participation Report is currently available for completion via an online link. The link is posted on the Secondary CTE web page and can also be access directly from the link below.

<http://www.keysurvey.com/survey/345142/1aa5/>

The data collected from these Participation Reports is used for Carl D. Perkins accountability reporting and factors that determine the State VoEd allocation. Therefore, it is imperative that the information submitted on these reports is complete and accurate. Incomplete, missing, or inaccurate data will affect your district's FY12 State VoEd/Perkins allocations. Remember to also upload a copy of your current course descriptions.

For more information or assistance with this on-line report, please contact Diana Fiedler, Accountability Specialist, at 406.444.9019 or by e-mail at: [dfiedler@mt.gov](mailto:dfiedler@mt.gov).

#### **H&R Block Grants for the Free Virtual Business-Personal Finance Software Due Today**

H&R Block, through its Dollars and Sense program, is offering over 200 grants to help schools get Virtual Business–Personal Finance. Virtual Business–Personal Finance is the leading simulation-based financial literacy curriculum in the U.S., with over 3000 schools currently using the program. It allows students to learn and practice 18 money management skills in an environment that mimics real life. The simulation comes with lesson plans and study materials, so grant recipients have everything they need to teach a personal finance course.

Curriculum grants are available to high school teachers nationwide. The application process is easy and takes less than ten minutes. Grant applications are due today, February 29, 2012. Recipients will be announced on the H&R Block Dollars & Sense website between March 1 and April 17, 2012. Grants will be delivered in May 2012.

Click here to request a grant: <http://www.hrbds.com/curriculum-grants/apply.html>

This is a great opportunity to get Virtual Business–Personal Finance for your school and ensure your students learn the money management skills they'll need in life. The H&R Block Dollars & Sense program has awarded more than \$2.5 million in curriculum grants and scholarships to high schools and students across the country.

Knowledge Matters Inc. is a leading developer and publisher of educational software, including Virtual Business®–Personal Finance. Knowledge Matters products have been used by more than 1 million students worldwide. For more information, please visit <http://www.knowledgematters.com/products/vbpf>

### **Submitting Big Sky Pathways & Postsecondary Coordinator Point of Contacts Information**

This year, the necessary documents/materials needed for Big Sky Pathway/Gap Analysis review and approval are to be submitted electronically to each postsecondary partner's Big Sky Pathway Point of Contact. Below is the listing of the contact person and email address for each partnering postsecondary institution.

<b>Postsecondary Partner</b>	<b>Big Sky Pathway Coordinator</b>	<b>E-mail Address</b>
Dawson Community College	Jim Cargill, DCC President	<a href="mailto:jcargill@dawson.edu">jcargill@dawson.edu</a>
Flathead Valley Community College	Jeremy Fritz	<a href="mailto:jfritz@fvcc.edu">jfritz@fvcc.edu</a>
Fort Peck Community College	Craig Smith	<a href="mailto:csmith@fpcc.edu">csmith@fpcc.edu</a>
Gallatin College Programs	Nicole Berg	<a href="mailto:nicole.berg@montana.edu">nicole.berg@montana.edu</a>
Miles Community College	Shelly Weight	<a href="mailto:weights@milescc.edu">weights@milescc.edu</a>
MSU-Billings COT	Tammi Miller	<a href="mailto:tmiller@msubillings.edu">tmiller@msubillings.edu</a>
MSU-Great Falls COT	Heidi Pasek	<a href="mailto:hpasek@msugf.edu">hpasek@msugf.edu</a>
MSU-Northern	Larry Strizich	<a href="mailto:strizich@msun.edu">strizich@msun.edu</a>
Montana Tech COT	Denise Peterson-Elakovich	<a href="mailto:delakovich@mtech.edu">delakovich@mtech.edu</a>
UM-Helena COT	Jennifer Shade	<a href="mailto:jennifer.schade@umhelena.edu">jennifer.schade@umhelena.edu</a>
UM-Missoula COT	Kevin Brockbank	<a href="mailto:Kevin.Brockbank2@mso.umt.edu">Kevin.Brockbank2@mso.umt.edu</a>

When preparing to submit this year's work for approval, please be sure to have the following three (3) items completed:

- The completed Pathway Template if developing a new Pathway or revising/updating your approved Pathway from last year (if not developing a new or revising/updating last year's Pathway, then you will just need to submit last year's Pathway as-is)
  - If developing a new Pathway or revising the Pathway approved last year, please use the new [Big Sky Pathways Proposal Templates](#) which can be downloaded from the OPI website at [http://opi.mt.gov/programs/CTAE/CTE.html#gpm1\\_3](http://opi.mt.gov/programs/CTAE/CTE.html#gpm1_3)
- The completed Gap Analysis spreadsheet with the data for the High School and Postsecondary courses  
*Remember: Gap Analysis spreadsheets must include the combined Postsecondary Gap Analysis data with your High School data*
- The [2012-2013 Completed Agreement Form](#)
  - The [2012-2013 Completed Agreement Form](#) can be download from the OPI website at [http://www.opi.mt.gov/pdf/CTE/BSP/12\\_13BSPApproval.pdf](http://www.opi.mt.gov/pdf/CTE/BSP/12_13BSPApproval.pdf)
  - Remember, the Approval/Agreement Form for this year has been modified/updated from the form used last year so be sure to use the new form (dated October 2011)

### **On This Day in History . . .**

#### **February 29**

- 1940: *Gone with the Wind* is honored with eight Oscars by the American Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences including Best Picture, Director, Screenplay, Cinematography, Art Direction, Film Editing, and Actress categories; however, the most momentous award, Best Supporting Actress, went to Hattie McDaniel for her portrayal of "Mammy" and becoming the first African American actress or actor ever to be honored with an Oscar
- 1972: Hank Aaron signs a three-year deal with the Atlanta Braves that pays him \$200,000 per year, making him the highest-paid player in Major League Baseball at the time

1992: Mr. Big started a three week run at No.1 on the US singles chart with *To Be With You*

### **March 1**

1781: The Articles of Confederation are finally ratified after Maryland finally approves the Articles on March 1, 1781, affirming the Articles as the outline of the official government of the United States

1872: President Grant signs the bill creating the nation's first national park at Yellowstone

1961: President John F. Kennedy issues Executive Order #10924, establishing the Peace Corps as a new agency within the Department of State

1975: The Eagles went to No.1 on the US singles chart with 'Best Of My Love', the first of five US No.1's for the band

### **March 2**

1836: Texas declares its independence from Mexico, but the U.S. did not recognize the new republic

1904: Theodor Geisel, better known to the world as Dr. Seuss, the author and illustrator of such beloved children's books as "The Cat in the Hat" and "Green Eggs and Ham," is born in Springfield, Massachusetts

1960: After completing his national service and flying back to America, Elvis Presley stepped on British soil for the first and only time in his life when the plane carrying him stopped for refuelling at Prestwick Airport, Scotland

### **March 3**

1820: After months of bitter debate, Congress passes the Missouri Compromise, a bill that temporarily resolves the first serious political clash between slavery and antislavery interests in U.S. history

1875: Indoor ice hockey makes its public debut in Montreal, Quebec, in the Victoria Skating Rink

1931: President Herbert Hoover signs a congressional act making Francis Scott Key's *The Star-Spangled Banner* the official national anthem of the United States

1995: Foo Fighters made their live debut during a benefit show at The Satyricon in Portland, Oregon

### **March 4**

1789: The first session of the U.S. Congress is held in New York City as the U.S. Constitution takes effect; however, of the 22 senators and 59 representatives called to represent the 11 states who had ratified the document, only nine senators and 13 representatives showed up to begin negotiations for its amendment

1888 Knute Rockne is born in Voss, Norway

1959: The winners of the first Grammy Awards were announced: Domenico Modugno's *Volare* was Record of the Year; Henry Mancini's *Peter Gunn* was Album of the Year and The Champs *Tequila* won best R&B performance

### **March 5**

1770: The clash between British soldiers and Boston citizens known as the Boston Massacre when British Army soldiers killed five American colonists gathered outside the Customs House in Boston

1963 The Hula-Hoop, a hip-swiveling toy that became a huge fad across America when it was first marketed by Wham-O in 1958, is patented by the company's co-founder, Arthur "Spud" Melin

1983: Michael Jackson started a seven week run at No.1 on the US singles chart with *Billie Jean*

### **March 6**

1899: The Imperial Patent Office in Berlin registers Aspirin, the brand name for acetylsalicylic acid, on behalf of the German pharmaceutical company Friedrich Bayer & Co

1930: Industrialist and inventor Clarence Birdseye introduced prepackaged quick-frozen foods to American consumers

1993: Peabo Bryson and Regina Belle went to No.1 on the US singles chart with *A Whole New World*, from the Disney movie *Aladdin*

### **Remember to Send State BPA Video Production Entries by Monday to Molly**

Due to the number of entries and the limited time the judges have available, Video Production Team entries will be pre-judged and finalists posted at the Registration Desk at the College of Technology.

In order to get the entries to the judges, the State Conference Committee is requesting videos be submitted via DVD to Judged Events Recruiter Molly Barta via **postal mail on, or before, Monday, March 5**. This will ensure adequate time for the videos to arrive in Billing before the State Leadership Conference.

All Video Production Teams must also bring an extra DVD and the necessary [Team Entry Form/State of Originality and Specifications Compliance Form](#) and [BPA Workplace Skills Assessment Program Release Form](#) to the State Leadership Conference to provide to the Proctor at the time of presentation to ensure the awarding of the Specification Points.

The Top 10 Video Production Teams will present at the State Leadership Conference Sunday afternoon, March 11, beginning at 1 pm. A list of finalists will be posted at the Registration Desk by Noon on Sunday and the Top 10 Video Production Teams will need to sign up for a presentation time.

When submitting DVDs there must be a label indicating Chapter Name, Team Name (Team 1 or Team 2), and the Membership Identification Numbers of each team member.

Please mail the Video Production Team DVD on, or before, Monday, March 5 to

Molly Barta  
Skyview High School  
1775 High Sierra Blvd  
Billings, MT 59105

It recommended the DVDs be sent via Certified Mail with Return Receipt for tracking, proof of mailing, and proof of receipt. Video Production Team DVDs must be postmarked on, or before, Monday, March 5.

While the plan was to have all Video Production Teams present to the judges, they were only available to judge on Sunday. The State Conference Committee and Montana BPA Leadership Team thank you for your cooperation, understanding, and participation.

### **[2012 NLC Preview Video Available on BPA Website](#)**

The 2012 National Leadership Conference preview video is available for viewing in the NLC section of the BPA website at <http://www.bpa.org/nlc/nlcvideo>.

As you start planning for the 2012 National Leadership Conference in Chicago, be sure to review all the details and information available in the NLC section of the BPA website, <http://www.bpa.org/nlc/>.

### **[The National BPA Pre-Conference Publication is Now Posted](#)**

The NLC Pre-Conference Publication (<http://bit.ly/yFfRjJ>) is a comprehensive guide to planning your trip to Chicago, Illinois, for the National Leadership Conference. The Pre-Conference Publication includes 2012 conference changes, session information, dress code policy, details on speakers, tours, sessions, elections, competitive events, deadlines, internships, leadership programs, the and the expo.

The publication also provides guidance on registration, the Conference Registration System, hotel reservations, transportation, logistics and details to remember at the conference.

Maps of Chicago and hotel floor plans are provided as well as a sample press release, schedule of events, necessary forms, and the Delegate Conduct policy.

The information in the Pre-Conference Publication is also available all over [the NLC section of our Web site](#).

[Click here to download the 2012 National Leadership Conference Pre-Conference Publication](#).

### **[Ambassador Torch Awards & BPA Cares Program Awards Due March 15](#)**

Thursday, March 15 is the deadline for submitting Ambassador Torch Award applications via the Torch Awards Online Resume System (<http://www.bpa.org/awards/torchsystem>) and all awards within the BPA Cares Program (formerly Special Recognition Awards).

This year, there are three categories of BPA Cares programs:

- [Service Learning Awards](#) - Includes Community Relief, Community Action, Special Olympics, Environmental Action/Awareness, Safety Awareness, and Service Learning Individual;
- [Special Recognition Awards](#) - Includes the BPA Marketing and PR, BPA Merit Scholar, Chapter Activities Award of Excellence, Entrepreneurship Exploration, Member Recruiter, and National Center Capital Improvements Campaign awards; and
- [Professional Awards](#) - Includes the Advisor of the Year, Emerging Advisor, Emerging Professional, Hall of Fame, Outstanding Service, and Professional Cup awards.

The complete [BPA Cares Handbook](#) and details on how to submit BPA Cares Program Awards can be found on the BPA Cares page at <http://www.bpa.org/awards/bpacares>.

### **Time to Prepare for DECA ICDC**

Thank you again to all the DECA Advisors for their help and support at the 2012 State Conference!!

Please remember that all ICDC Registration papers and ICDC Payment are due to Erin Weisgerber no later than Friday, March 16. All registration forms were sent out. If you have any questions, please contact Erin at [erinweisgerber@yahoo.com](mailto:erinweisgerber@yahoo.com).

### **DECA State Officer Applications Due March 16**

In addition to ICDC Registration, 2012-2013 State Officer Applications are also due on March 16th. Applications can be found on the Montana DECA website at [www.mtdeca.org](http://www.mtdeca.org) or you can contact Erin, [erinweisgerber@yahoo.com](mailto:erinweisgerber@yahoo.com).

Officer candidates should be actively looking to get further involved in DECA and need to have the ability to travel to Helena for at least three meetings and the State Conference in February 2013.

### **Information for Letters and Pride Points Bulletin**

Please remember that Erin is working to put together Administrator letters and a Pride Points Bulletin outlining achievements from DECA chapters across Montana.

Please make sure to send her any pertinent information about your chapter activities and/or chapter members so she can put together these documents. All information can be emailed to Erin, [erinweisgerber@yahoo.com](mailto:erinweisgerber@yahoo.com), and needs to be received by April 1.

*Past issues of the 2011-2012 school year's Wednesday Reader are now 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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