

The Wednesday Reader

September 5, 2012

Welcome to the 2012-2013 School Year

Today is the first *Wednesday Reader* for the 2012-2013 school year. For those new to the *Wednesday Reader*, this informative email will be sent to you each Wednesday throughout the school year.

Please feel free to share any and all information with your students, parents, colleagues, and administrators. Also, if you have items/news/opportunities you would like to share with other Montana Business and Marketing Education professionals, please let me know, eswenson@mt.gov.

Lastly, I would like to extend another “Welcome” to all of our new Montana Business & Marketing Education teachers.

2012 MBEA/Montana ACTE Institute – Big Sky Vision 2012

Montana’s premier professional development opportunity for Career and Technical Education professionals and Montana’s business and marketing educators will be held in Billings October 18-19.

The Montana Business Education Association (MBEA) in conjunction with the Montana Association for Career and Technical Education (Montana ACTE) invite you to Billings for the [2012 Montana ACTE Institute](#). This year’s institute will be held at the Billings Crowne Plaza with Friday’s breakouts taking place at Huntley Project High School in Worden.

The Institute will feature more than 16 breakout sessions, more than 15 exhibitors, the Montana ACTE silent and live auction, the 2021 Montana ACTE Awards Program, and a networking social.

The Institute’s [registration form](#) can be downloaded from the [Montana ACTE website \(www.montanaacte.org\)](http://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.

Be sure to make your Billings Crowne Plaza hotel reservations early as well. Reservations can be made by calling the Billings Crowne Plaza at 406.252.7400. The Montana ACTE room block ends September 20—don’t delay, book today.

2012 New Career & Technical Education Professionals Workshop

The Montana Office of Public Instructions Career, Technical and Adult Education division and the Career and Technical Education program specialist are pleased to offer a **FREE** professional development experience for Montana’s new Career and Technical Education professionals.

The New CTE Professionals Workshop will take place October 17 in downtown Billings at the MSU-Billings Downtown Conference Center, just prior to the 2012 Montana ACTE Institute. The New CTE Professionals Workshop is designed specifically for Career & Technical Education professionals in their first, second, or third year in the classroom.

This professional development opportunity will provide teachers who are new to the classroom, as well as those with less than four years of experience, with information on a variety of topics essential for success in the career and technical education classroom including

- Montana's Big Sky Pathways Initiative and the Development of Programs of Study,
- Perkins funding,
- State CTE funding,
- Advisory committees,
- Professional development,
- Professional organizations,
- CTE and program-area standards and guidelines, and
- Career & Technical Student Organizations.

The workshop will be held from 8 am to 4 pm. The training is **FREE** of charge and lunch will be provided for attendees. Up to six OPI Renewal Units will be offered.

A complete schedule of events is currently being finalized; however, registration is open and can be completed at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FKDN7ZH>. Registration is due Monday, October 8.

Come to Billings for the New CTE Professionals Workshop and stay for the 2012 Montana ACTE Institute. Travel expenses to attend both the New CTE Professionals Workshop and the 2012 Montana ACTE Institute are both allowable expenses for Carl Perkins and State Career and Vocational/Technical funds.

Nominations Sought for Montana Business Educator Awards Program

We all know and respect the innovative and wonderful things our colleagues are doing every day. Why not recognize them?! The [Montana Business Education Association](#) (MBEA) is seeking nominations for its 2012 Awards Program. Please consider nominating an awesome business educator for recognition in October during the Montana ACTE Fall Institute in Billings.

Categories include Rookie Business Teacher of the Year (1-3 years), Young Business Teacher of the Year (5 years or less), and Secondary Business Teacher of the Year. Both the Young Business Teacher and Secondary Business Teacher of the Year this winner will compete to move on to the ACTE Region V awards competition.

Letters of nomination can be sent to Regina Wood, MBEA Past President, at rswood@livingston.k12.mt.us. Please submit all nominations by September 21, 2012.

Montana ACTE Fall Newsletter Ready for Your Viewing

The Fall 2012 edition of the Montana ACTE Newsletter is awaiting your reading.

The Newsletter can be download from the [Montana ACTE](#) website (www.montanaacte.org) are directly from the following link—link.

Be sure to get your copy today.

Free Microsoft Office Materials

Della Anderson, Lodge Grass High School, has instructional materials for Microsoft Office 2007 free for the taking; just pay for the shipping.

Della has 18-20 Learning Microsoft Office Deluxe 2007 textbooks & with data CD's, a test binder, as well as solutions, visual aids, etc. for IBM PC's. The materials are from Pearson Publishing.

If you are interested, please contact Della at danderson@lodgegrass.k12.mt.us.

Election Economic Workshop Sponsored by MCEE

The [Montana Council on Economic Education](http://www.econedmontana.org) (www.econedmontana.org) is excited to announce the development of a new series of classroom-ready materials—Election Economics.

A great workshop on the economics of elections will be held September 28 in Helena, from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm. Instructors will include one of your peers, Montana State University professors, and others involved in campaigns and elections. The workshop will be held in in one of the hearing rooms at the Capitol and lunch will be in the Rotunda.

[Registration](#) and workshop details can be found on the [Montana Council on Economic Education](http://www.econedmontana.org) website at www.econedmontana.org. Seating will be limited, so early registration is encouraged.

Apple Opens iTunes U to All Teachers

Apple knows many of teachers you have started to drive innovation by using iPads in your schools. With iPad, there is a wonderful range of engaging experiences for our students across apps and new interactive textbooks that give us opportunities to explore new ways to teach.

Apple would like to announce a new opportunity from Apple which may be of interest to you.

Apple runs a service called iTunes U that gives teachers the ability to build full courses using apps, books, video, and the web in a single app on iPad for students. Previously, this service was only available to universities, colleges, districts, and schools. However, starting this summer, Apple has opened up its iTunes U service so any teacher can build private courses for iPad.

For those of you teaching in iPad one-to-ones, this might be a great new resource. [Click here to learn more about iTunes U!](#)

CareerTech VISION 2012-ACTE Prepares for the Atlanta, Georgia Events

This November, career and technical education professionals from across the country and around the world will gather in Atlanta at the [Georgia World Congress Center](#) November 28-December 1 for the most exciting and talked-about CTE event of the year—[CareerTech VISION 2012!](#)

[CareerTech VISION 2012](#) is the perfect place for attendees who are interested in learning or sharing best practices in CTE and exchanging experiences that can help bring CTE to the next level in your state and around the nation. At VISION 2012, you will learn how to use valuable tools and strategies for new techniques, as well as keep up to date with the latest school technologies that can be implemented in your classroom and school.

At VISION 2012, attendees will have the opportunity to choose from more than 200 [groundbreaking sessions](#) that are designed to showcase how schools are implementing their CTE curricula around the nation, the impact CTE has had in the nation's economy, and how CTE will impact the future of students, teachers and the nation as a whole. In addition, participants will have the opportunity to connect with more than 4,000 CTE professionals, take advantage of a wide range of international partnerships and develop powerful business and industry connections. See a full list of [accepted sessions](#) on the [CareerTech VISION 2012 website](#).

At CareerTech VISION 2012, you will—

- **Connect** with business and industry.
- **Interact** with the latest innovations in education.
- **Network** with your colleagues and today's CTE leaders.
- **Achieve** by using what you learn to positively impact your students' success.
- **Get your blood pumping!** ACTE has joined forces with its long-time partner, the U.S. Army, to offer VISION 2012 attendees an invigorating way to start the day. The soldiers will conduct some light exercises that will help you get energized and ready to learn!

In addition, CareerTech VISION 2012 features sessions presented by NOCTI, the National Association of State Directors of CTE Consortium, the National Association of Agriculture Educators, the Association for Career and Technical Education Research, the National Coalition of Certification Centers, Tools for Schools, International Vocational Education and Training Association, Cengage Learning and MBAResearch.

[CareerTech VISION 2012](#) is your one location to achieve all your individual and institutional objectives. Don't miss the best CTE professional development event of the year. [Register today!](#)

Understanding Taxes is as Easy as ABC with Understanding Taxes

The Internal Revenue Service's would like to share exciting news about their **free** education curriculum, [Understanding Taxes](#) (UT). The [Understanding Taxes](#) Program is an easy to use, web-based, interactive curriculum that makes understanding the U.S. Federal Tax System fun and relevant.

UT makes teaching taxes as easy as ABC . . . Accessible, Bringing learning to life, and Comprehensive. This web-based product makes real world connections to classroom instruction. It is a great resource for middle school, high school and community college educators, and the public for learning more about the history, theory and application of taxes in the United States. Understanding Taxes was designed for and by educators and focus tested on educators and students.

UT has two sections: one for teachers and one for students. The teacher side has lesson plans that take the guesswork out of teaching all about taxes while the interactive student side has activities, tax simulations, tutorials and self-assessments. UT has great tools that support and enhance learning, such as instructions on how to use the materials in the classroom, a glossary of tax terms, additional resource links to national and state standards.

Visit <http://www.irs.gov/app/understandingTaxes/index.jsp> and experience the ease and flexibility of Understanding Taxes.

InVEST: Insurance Literacy Curriculum for Students

InVEST (www.investprogram.org) is a unique program that develops professional skills and insurance literacy in high school students. InVEST provides education, opportunity, hands on experience and mentorship for students. The program can be tailored to each school's curriculum and academic requirements and is flexible to accommodate any teaching style.

InVEST has textbooks (printed free of charge for students), teacher's guide, lesson plans, online activities, videos and more!

The program can be implemented for as little as two weeks or can be stretched into a year-long program and implement mock agency simulations. During simulations, students form and operate model insurance agencies (small businesses), rotate through the various job positions, and act as insurance agents selling mock policies.

Classroom activities include processing applications, rating, and general accounting which allow students the opportunity to experience all aspects of insurance business activities. You can view a sample version of our textbook by [clicking this link](#).

InVEST is hosting a free webinar to educate teachers who are looking for more information. The webinar will be held Wednesday, September 19 at 3 p.m. EST. The webinars will be about 30 minutes and showcase all of InVEST's resources, the benefits of the program and how to get started. [Register here](#)

For more information about InVEST, contact national staff at 800-221-7917.

Remember – InVEST's resources are free! Look around our website and see if this will be a nice addition to your classes. Our website is www.investprogram.org/.

Funding for InVEST comes from insurance companies and agencies looking to improve insurance literacy and attract new talent to the insurance industry.

Did You Know . . .

Norway publishes all of its citizens' tax returns online and you can search any name and find that person's wealth.

There is a political party in Switzerland called the "Anti PowerPoint Party" that works to decrease the use of PowerPoint in professional presentations.

United States citizens can request the White House to send a greeting for weddings, birth, anniversaries, and other milestones for free.

Many ghost sightings can be attributed to Infrasound, a low frequency sound that can cause people to see and hear things that are not real.

Winnie-the Pooh's real name is Edward Bear.

The Montana BPA Website is Ready for You

During Summer, Montana BPA Executive Secretary Anza Ketterman and State Advisor Eric Swenson were busy getting the [Montana BPA](http://www.bpamt.org) website (www.bpamt.org) updated and ready for the 2012-2013 membership year.

Many of the files within the [Advisor Manual page](#) have been updated and be sure to download the current Montana BPA Calendar of Events.

If you are a new advisor or will be advising a new chapter this year, please download the Map of Regions from the [Advisor Manual page](#) to locate your chapter's region.

The State Executive Board Directory, also on the [Advisor Manual page](#), lists the names and E-mail information for the eight (8) regional coordinators. Please feel free to contact them with any questions you may have regarding the fall advisor meeting or the Regional Leadership Conference.

4th Annual BPA-Be a Business Major Day – Monday, October 8

Rocky Mountain College will be hosting the Fourth Annual "BPA - Be a Business Major Day" on Monday, October 8, 2012.

Rocky Mountain College would like to invite you and your students to explore Montana's first and finest institution of higher education. At RMC we are committed to providing learning opportunities and experiences that prepare our students to be outstanding leaders in business industries, as well as their communities.

Rocky Mountain College feels students should be able to make life-changing decisions with their eyes wide open and experience a college classroom first-hand. That being said, RMC would like to invite your BPA Chapter to Rocky Mountain College's Fourth Annual BPA - Be A Business Major Day on Monday, October 8, 2012.

Registration for this event is now open. Chapter Advisors are welcome to register their chapter and student participants. Juniors and seniors only, please. No registrations will be accepted after September 30, 2012. [Register Now!](#)

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call 406.657.1026 or email at admissions@rocky.edu. We look forward to seeing you on campus.

For more information, please visit gold.rocky.edu/admissions/BusinessDay.php.

2013 BPA National Leadership Conference Logo Package Link

It may just be the first days of school, but it is never too early to plan for the 2013 Business Professionals of America National Leadership Conference.

The 2013 NLC will be in Orlando, May 8-12, and this year's theme "Uncover Your Magic."

For your use to promote membership in Business Professionals of America and to promote the opportunities available to students at the National Leadership Conference below is a link the 2012-2013 BPA logo package. Feel free to download and utilize the images.

www.cybis.co/downloads/Cybis-BPA-2013-UncoverYourMagic-Logo-Package-v2.zip

2012 Montana BPA Fall Advisor Meetings

Below are the currently scheduled regional fall meetings for local chapter advisors. If you have any questions, please contact your regional coordinator.

<u>Region</u>	<u>Meeting Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Coordinator</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
1	September 19	Flathead Valley CC	Ron Hanson	ron.hanson@ronank12.edu
2	October 1	Missoula	Jamie Toivonen	jtoivonen@superior.k12.mt.us
3	October 4	Great Falls	Carolyn Stone	cstone@moore.k12.mt.us
5	October 3	Big Timber	Regina Wood	rswood@livingston.k12.mt.us
6	October 3	Billings	Natalie Schaff	natalieschaff@yahoo.com
8	October 3	Glasgow	Bertha Kirschten	bkirschten@circleschools.k12.mt.us

National Organization for Youth Safety Design Contest for BPA Members

The National Organization for Youth Safety (NOYS) is offering an exciting opportunity to BPA students to produce a logo and tagline for prescription drug abuse prevention that will be placed on the NOYS website (www.noys.org).

NOYS is in the process of developing resources for prescription drug abuse campaigns and programs for the 2012-2013 school year, and the resources need to include a creative, engaging, and effective design that spreads awareness to youth about the issue. In the past, youth have designed logos and taglines for NOYS youth health and safety topics which have been proven to be a successful way of getting NOYS messages out to youth around the nation.

BPA students can use creative design skill including different colors, fonts, and shapes and create their own unique message. The designs must be original and cannot include any trademark materials or designs. **Final submissions will need to be sent in jpg. format**

The student(s) that create the chosen logo/tagline will receive recognition on the NOYS Substance Abuse Prevention section of the website via picture and short biography, in the Notable NOYS Newsletter, and will receive a certificate of appreciation for volunteering for a national nonprofit youth health and safety coalition.

Timeline of Project:

- **September 10 - 21, 2012:** BPA students will submit de-signs during this two week period. Deadline of submission is September 21
- **September 24 - 28, 2012:** NOYS youth will choose winning design
- **October 2, 2012** – Winner will be announced and high-lighted in newsletter and on website.

For more details, please download the complete description at www.bpa.org/members/28/docs/NOYSRX.pdf.

Montana DECA Fall Advisor Meeting and More—Mark Your Calendars

Welcome back to what should be another great year for Montana DECA!! There is a lot happening this fall, so please make sure to get out your calendars and mark dates so you're ready for all the upcoming events.

The Montana DECA Fall Advisor/Officer meeting will be Sunday, September 30, in Helena. Additional details on times, location, etc. will be sent out soon. We have a lot of changes coming this year, so please plan on attending the meeting.

If you start registering students for membership prior to the September 30 meeting, please note that membership numbers will carry over for your students from last year. You will only need to renew their membership and will NOT have to enter in their names again. If you have to make changes to any of their information, but the system will not allow it, please contact DECA, Inc. Membership for more help.

For students interested in competing in the Stock Market Game, it starts on September 4. Please see the website (deca.smgww.org) or your DECA guide for more details.

For those advisors interested in taking their students to conferences this fall, there are several options. The [Western Region Leadership Conference](#) will be held in Seattle, November 15-17. Registration will be capped at the first 2800 students to register and registration is due no later than October 15. After attending the SAM Conference this summer and listening to the Washington State Advisors talk about the conference, it should be fantastic and one you won't want to miss!!

The [Innovations and Entrepreneurship Conference](#) is November 8-10 in Chicago.

The [New York Experience](#) will have two options; November 28-December 2 and December 5-9.

While advisors talked about a possible alternative to the 2013 State Conference, we will be keeping it in Helena on February 3-5. Unfortunately, we ran into a few road blocks so will leave it as is this year. We can talk further at the Fall Meeting to discuss alternatives for the upcoming years.

Best of luck as you start out the year and I will look forward to seeing you on September 30 in Helena!!

Past 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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