

The Wednesday Reader

March 6, 2013

Please Note: Due to the 2013 Montana BPA State Leadership Conference there will not be a Wednesday Reader on Wednesday, March 13.

CTE Spring Data Collection Now Opening-Time to ID CTE Concentrators for Perkins Funding

The Career and Technical Education (CTE) Spring Data Collections began March 1, 2013, and ends April 26, 2013. High schools need to identify all students in grade 12 who were enrolled at any point during the current 2012-2013 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 in any combination. Currently enrolled courses count towards 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 data system. If the student has a child or shares the 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 http://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 emailing opiaimhelp@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 emailing dfiedler@mt.gov.

CenturyLink Innovative Technology Grants Available

CenturyLink has allocated \$35,000 to the Montana Association for Career & Technical Education (Montana ACTE) through an education grant to be awarded to Montana K-12 educators who demonstrate innovative uses of technology in the classroom.

The funds will be disbursed to local school districts on a competitive basis. All current K-12 Montana teachers who reside in the service area of CenturyLink are eligible to apply with the exception of any members who are on the selection committee or are previous grant recipients. Applicants do not need to be customers of CenturyLink.

A teacher may receive a maximum of one grant award but there is no limit to the number of awards given to different teachers at any particular school.

The funds may be used to purchase the following for use in the classroom: supplies and materials, software and hardware, or professional development activities. Any supplies and materials, software and hardware purchased become the property of the school should the teacher leave the school.

The grant application can be found at www.montanaacte.org. The funds will be available June 2013 and must be spent during the 2013-2014 academic school year. **The application is due April 26, 2013.**

Professional Development Opportunities Available for Various Technology Topics

Lindy Hockenbary, former Business Educator and BPA advisor at Stanford High School, is offering various technology workshops in Bozeman, Manhattan, Townsend, and Helena this spring.

Available through the Montana Region IV Educational Service Agency (RESA4U), the workshops are technology-specific and OPI renewal units are provided for every workshop; college credit is not available.

Details about workshop topics, dates, locations, costs, and renewal units available can be found on the RESA4U website at <http://www.resa4u.org/Page/190>.

For questions, please contact RESA4U Technology Integration Specialist Lindy Hochenbary at lhockenbary@resa4u.org.

Learning, Earning and Investing workshop in Kalispell

The [Montana Council on Economic Education](#)'s *Learning, Earning and Investing* workshop in Kalispell will be held Friday, March 22, from 7:30 am to 3:30 pm.

MCEE will provide the seminar, materials, breakfast and lunch, reimbursements for subs, and shared rooms for attendees. (If you prefer to room alone, you'll need to send \$40; if you share a room, there will be no cost).

The class has been filed for seven units with OPI. Please see the MCEE website—www.econedmontana.org—to register no later than March 11. This session was given recently in Lewistown and got rated as mostly "excellent" on the evaluations, so don't miss it! Sponsors are PayneWest, Discover Financial Services, and the Council on Economic Education.

To register, please go to http://www.econedmontana.org/lei/LEI_Registration.html.

Montana Business Educators Serve on National School Codes for Exchange of Data Project

This winter, two of Montana's educators participated in the national "CTE Courses: Creating Commonality with SCED" project to update career and technical education courses within the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) School Codes for the Exchange of Data (SCED).

Sentinel High School's Cindy Schultz served as a member of Arts, A/V Technology and Communications cluster committee and Eric Swenson, Montana Business Education Specialist with the Montana Office of Public Instruction, was a committee member for the Finance cluster.

The "CTE Courses: Creating Commonality with SCED" project included input from the National Association of State Directors of Career Technical Education Consortium (NASDCTEc), the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE), the US Department of Education (ED) and, most importantly,

practitioners in the field. Working groups of 6-8 people per Career Cluster™ worked together to update and align career and technical education course names and definitions with the help of resources provided by the steering committee of ACTE, NASDCTEc and DOE representatives. CTE teachers, administrators, teacher educators, state education agency consultants, and local education agencies and postsecondary institutions, all participated with each working group will including a variety of participants across the profession and across states.

The recommendations from all cluster-area committee were submitted shortly after the first of the year to the National Center for Education Statistics for review at the NCES Winter Forum Meeting by the Forum SCED Committee.

Career Pathways Partnership Excellence Award

This year [Kuder, Inc.](#) will sponsor the new Career Pathways Partnership Excellence Award, which emphasizes the importance of career guidance and advising, professional development for educators and employers, and the employer role in providing work-based learning opportunities for students.

Awards will be presented to three exemplary partnerships at the [National Career Pathways Network \(NCPN\) conference in San Antonio, October 14–15](#). Be sure to apply by April 30.

Career Pathways Partnership Excellence Awards—

- First place: \$3,000 cash prize plus 10 free one-year memberships in NCPN
- Second place: \$2,000 cash prize plus 7 free one-year memberships in NCPN
- Third place: \$1,000 cash prize plus 5 free one-year memberships in NCPN
- Air travel and hotel accommodations for one person from each winning site to attend the 2013 NCPN Conference in San Antonio, Texas, scheduled October 14–15, 2013
- Recognition at the 2013 NCPN membership luncheon
- Opportunity to present details of winning program during a featured breakout session at the 2013 NCPN Conference and in the Connections newsletter

The contact person for each competing partnership must be an NCPN member. (Click [here](#) for membership information or [here](#) if you are currently a member and need to retrieve your NCPN membership number.)

Submissions must be submitted by April 30, 2013. To apply, visit <http://www.ncpn.info/awards-form.php>.

For more information about the National Career Pathways Network please visit <http://www.ncpn.info/index.php>.

Do Your Students Get IT?

If your students get Information Technology (IT), below are a few free resources for your classroom.

[Code.org](#) has created a short video to encourage students to get involved with computer programming. Even if you do not teach code, this video discusses the importance of problem-solving, creative thinking, and

working towards a goal. The front page also has several quotes from influential people about the importance of computer programming.

If you are looking for a cool tool for younger students, check out [ScratchEd](#). This tool created by Lifelong Kindergarten allows students to create interactive stories, animations, or even games.

Do you have students creating games? Have they looked into using [Kodu](#)? ([Kodu](#) for PC is still free, but there is a charge for [Kodu](#) for the Xbox.)

Your students might like to try [Alice](#) as well. Try using one to create a simple vocabulary game and see if the interest in your computer programming class doesn't grow. Or use one of the programs to create a sales simulation for your marketing class. You might be surprised how many of your students do get IT.

Did you know . . .

bees and house flies flap their wings 200 times a second

the most eaten fruit in America is the banana

the ancient Greeks first grew carrots as a form of medicine and not a food

originally in 1886 Coca Cola was introduced as an 'intellectual beverage' to boost brain power

John Kellogg invented corn flakes

Orange Fanta is the 3rd largest selling soft drink in the world

the ideal temperature to fall asleep is between 18-30°C (64-86°F)

Montana DECA ICDC Materials & Information Due Date Next Week

The deadline has been extended! All ICDC Registration, Housing Forms and Payments are due by Wednesday, March 13.

Please make sure to complete the registration online at the DECA, Inc. Membership site, email Erin the housing forms and send all payment to PO Box 7261, Helena, MT 59604.

Registration is \$110/person and includes pins and insurance.

Thank you to everyone for helping make the hotel rooms work at ICDC. I know it was a tough year trying to squeeze everyone in. I appreciate your help, patience and willingness to consolidate.

ICDC Tours are now Open

You can now purchase attraction tickets for the DECA International Career Development Conference through the online tour order. The deadline to pre-order is Friday, April 19, 2013, at noon EST.

Please visit <https://www.decaregistration.com/tours/default.asp> for more info.

Included in the tours this year is the 3rd Annual DECA Dash for the Diamonds 5K race. The deadline to register is Friday, April 19 at 4:30 PM, EST. The cost is \$30/person.

Piper Jaffray/DECA Teen Survey Now Available

If you haven't done so already, please consider participating in the Piper Jaffray/DECA Teen Survey.

The survey is a great independent learning activity that reinforces your classroom teaching of marketing research. The spring [survey](#) is now available online until Wednesday, April 3, 2013.

Please visit <http://www.decadirect.org/March-2013/Piper-Jaffray-DECA-Teen-Survey/> for more info and to take the survey!

In Need of DECA Blazers for ICDC?

If you need additional blazers for ICDC, the deadline for ordering is Wednesday, March 27, 2013, to ensure delivery to your school by Wednesday, April 10, 2013.

Another option is to prepay for your blazers and pick them up at ICDC. All payments must be received at DECA Images by close of business March 27, 2013.

Montana BPA State Leadership Conference Schedules Finalized Today – Download NOW

All competitive event schedules will be finalized and available for chapters to preview and download on Wednesday, March 6. Any changes needing to be made after March 6 will be addressed onsite Sunday, March 10.

Schedules can be downloaded at www.registermychapter.com/bpamem. Click Leadership Conference Login, and put in your user name and password and select "Montana State Leadership Conference 2013 – Secondary" (even though it says closed). Once you are in the registration page, scroll to the bottom and it will say "View Your Schedule."

Please keep in mind students are only scheduled via the online system for judged events, excluding Graphic Design Promotion. All non-judged events are open enrollment and student may complete the contest during the window in which they are offered.

It is the responsibility of chapter advisors to download chapter competitive event schedules and share with chapter members prior to arriving at the state leadership conference.

March 18 is Due Date for BPA NLC Competitive Event Drops & Bump-Ups

Following the completion of the Montana BPA State Leadership Conference, Becky DePuydt will send out a list of members who have qualified to compete at the National Leadership Conference based upon competitive event results. Chapter advisors will need to let Becky know if any of their qualified members

will not be attending the National Leadership Conference so the next finalist can be “bumped up” to ensure all allocated spots are filled.

Becky will send out an updated list three times each day—morning, afternoon, and evening—with the final list being sent out Monday evening, March 18. After this time, the list of National Leadership Conference competitors will be submitted to the National office.

For National Leadership Conference qualification, remember the 2+3=5 rule with the top two (2) teams (including Administrative Support Team), top three (3) in judged events, and the top five (5) in individual non-judged events qualifying to compete at NLC.

At the National Leadership Conference, students can compete in a maximum of two (2) events, one (1) of which may be a team event, and an unlimited number of Open Events. Students can only participate in one (1) event.

In team events, substitutions can be made as long as at least one member who completed at the state-level remains on the team and substitute(s) competed in an event at the state leadership conference.

Everything You Need to Know about 2013 BPA National Leadership Conference

Visit www.bpa.org/nlc to discover everything you need to know about the Business Professionals of America 2013 National Leadership Conference.

On the www.bpa.org/nlc page you will find links to the NLC [Deadlines and Registration Fees](#), [Pre-Conference Publication](#), the NLC Special Event—[BPA Beach Party: Dreams Come True](#) as well as [NLC Tours](#) and the [NLC Certification Lab](#).

Registration for the 2013 National Leadership Conference opened Monday, February 25 and must be completed on or before Monday, April 1

National BPA Scholarship Applications

The [scholarship applications](#) are now posted on the National BPA website (www.bpa.org/resources/Scholarships) to apply for the various scholarships available nationally from Business Professionals of America.

The National Officer team has been working very hard to receive donations so they can help students pay to further their education. The deadline for the application is March 29, 2013 so please encourage your students to apply.

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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