

The Wednesday Reader

December 4, 2013

Montana Business Educators Selected to Attend Regional Professional Development Institute

Two Montana business educators have been selected to attend a regional professional development training to be held in Portland, Oregon, in February. Kerri Cobb (Bozeman High School) and Beth Lawrence (Garfield County District High School) were selected by the Montana Business Education Association (MBEA) as the two Montana representatives for the Western Business Education Association's Professional Development Institute.

The 15th Annual Professional Development Institute will be held February 14, 2014, during the 2014 Western Business Education Association Conference. The training topics include leadership qualities, communication styles, organizational structures of the regional and national Executive Boards, Programs of Work, Bylaws, team building, goal setting, meeting management, convention planning, and personal visits from regional and national officers.

The health and relevancy of professional associations at the local, regional, and national levels rely on the involvement of teachers and administrators who will share their talents and time for the betterment of our profession. The Professional Development Institute is sponsored by Western Business Education Association WBEA and each of the western region associations, including the Montana Business Education Association.

The Western Business Education Association as the western regional affiliate of the National Business Education Association and seeks to share educational experiences that will prepare individuals to excel as consumers, workers, and citizens in our economic systems and understand the workings of and opportunities to excel as they function in our competitive global economy. The Western Business Education Association is comprised of the 15 western states and Canadian provinces, including Alberta, British Columbia, and Yukon.

December 31 Deadline for Completing Fall 2013 Perkins Data Collection

The Fall 2013 CTE Data Collection began on October 1 and ends on December 31, 2013. The Fall CTE Data Collection is a follow up to last year's Spring CTE Data Collection. Students identified as Perkins CTE Concentrators last year (2012-2013) and graduated in the spring of 2013 should be contacted between October 1 and December 31 and asked their current post-graduation status.

After contact, the appropriate post-graduation status code must be entered into the AIM/Infinite Campus data system for each CTE Concentrator. All high schools that received funding from the Carl D. Perkins federal grant program in 2012-2013 are required to complete this fall follow up collection to maintain their eligibility to receive Perkins funding.

Instructions for completing the Fall CTE Data Collection—called the '*Quick Reference Guide*' for the Fall CTE Data Collection—are located in two places on the OPI website: on the AIM web page listed in Reports and Data and also on the Secondary CTE web page under the '*Data Collections*' tab located at this link:

http://opi.mt.gov/programs/CTAE/CTE.html#gpm1_6.

PLEASE NOTE: Be sure to verify the list of CTE Concentrators from what your district submitted last spring. Any additions, corrections, or changes to the list of CTE Concentrators must be made no later than November 15, 2013, to be accurately reflected in federal reporting and used to compute Perkins Performance Indicators for your school.

Technical AIM questions regarding the Fall CTE Data Collection should be directed to the AIM Helpdesk at 1.877.424.6681 (toll-free) or email opiainhelp@mt.gov. Questions regarding the Carl D. Perkins federal grant program data requirements should be directed to Diana Fiedler, Perkins Accountability Specialist at 406.444.9019 or email dfiedler@mt.gov.

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[2014-2015 Big Sky Pathway Submission Process](#)

If your high school is planning to submit a new Big Sky Pathway for 2014-2015, please take a look at the **Submission Kit** and the link to the **Montana Big Sky Pathway Implementation Guide** that can be found here: <http://mus.edu/BigSkyPathways/default.asp>.

The *Submission Kit* explains when pathway approval is required, explains the approval process, contains the forms required for submission, and lists the timeline for submitting a new/revised pathway. This a joint project between the Office of Public Instruction and the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education (OCHE) as a requirement of the Carl D. Perkins federal grant.

If you have questions about the 2014-2015 pathway submission process, please contact one or more of the following specialists:

Postsecondary OCHE Program Manager

Kali Wicks, High School to College Pathways Program Manager

Phone: 406.444.0313; Email: kwicks@montana.edu

Postsecondary College Pathway Coordinators
<http://mus.edu/BigSkyPathways/PathwayCoordinators.asp>

Secondary OPI CTE Program Specialists
http://opi.mt.gov/programs/CTAE/CTE.html#gpm1_16

Montana Saves Scavenger Hunt – Invitation to Students

Want to experience something innovative and different while learning about the benefits of saving at the same time? Try the *Montana Saves Scavenger Hunt!* If you are a Montana student age 14 to 19 the hunt is definitely for you.

With your successful completion of the [*Montana Saves Scavenger Hunt*](#) you will become eligible for a drawing for one of 31 cash awards of \$100 during America Saves week February 24-March 1, 2014. These cash awards are courtesy of the Montana Credit Unions for Community Development and the First Interstate BancSystem Foundation.

You do not have to complete the hunts all at one time. You have until February 15, 2014 to complete all 10 hunts.

To participate

1. Go to the website: www.msuextension.org/montanasavesscavengerhunt
2. Click the continue button at the bottom of the screen.
3. Under **Is this your first time here?** Click new account. Complete each field; make a note of your username and password, then click “Create my new account.”
4. For security purposes, a message will be sent to your email account with a link to confirm your enrollment in the *Montana Saves Scavenger Hunt*.
5. Once you receive the email, click the link in the email message and begin your *Montana Saves Scavenger Hunt*.

Helpful Tips:

--If you need to logout and finish the hunt at a later time, you can return to the website again at www.msuextension.org/montanasavesscavengerhunt and follow the “login” link in the upper right hand corner of the page.

--You will be prompted for your username and password on the left side of screen, under “Returning to this Website”

If you have difficulties with registration or with any of the hunts contact Keri Hayes, MSU Publications/Extension Economics Administrative Assistant, khayes@montana.edu, 406-994-5695.

If you have questions about course content contact Marsha Goetting, MSU Extension Family Economics Specialist goetting@montana.edu, 406-586-5259.

Literacy-in-CTE Resources Now Available for Your Download and Use

During the 2013 Montana ACTE Institute, there were several sessions featured around the Common Core and Career and Technical Education detailing the work done by the schools and teachers who have been a part of Montana's Rigorous Programs of Study grant.

Many of the resources presented related to math-in-CTE and literacy-in-CTE. The following is a link to a Box.com folder with all the resources presented as well as many others which have been developed:

<https://app.box.com/s/nwqu4x6da4c5k24muco0>.

Fun Facts and Trivia

Great Smoky Mountains National Park is the most visited National Park. Clingmans Dome is the tallest point of the Smokies. At 6,643 feet, it's the highest peak in Tennessee.

The lowest elevation in the United States, in Death Valley National Park, is 282 ft. below sea level. Death Valley is the hottest, driest, and lowest place in North America. The area receives an average of only 1.5 inches of rain per year, and in summer, temperatures often exceed 120 degrees Fahrenheit.

There is one active volcano, thousands of petrified trees, and almost 300 waterfalls in Yellowstone National Park.

In the National Park System, there are 401 sites covering more than 84 million acres of land.

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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