

## **The Wednesday Reader**

*September 10, 2014*

### **Upcoming Webinar--Smart Snacks in Schools: Fueling Students for Success**

#### **Webinar Details**

Foods and beverages consumed by students at school impact their ability to learn, play, and maintain overall good health. Join us to learn about the new Smart Snack rule that schools are implementing this year (as part of their school wellness policy) to make it easy for students to access nutrient-rich snack foods and beverages while at school. Strategies for engaging students and steps for successful implementation will be shared.

Information also about the variety of successful and health-minded fundraisers that can be used to provide a consistent health message to students during the school day will also be shared.

The webinar will be held Thursday, September 18 from 3:30-4:30 p.m. (MDT). To register, click [here](#).

#### **Presented by Katie Bark, along with Montana school wellness champions**

Katie Bark is a licensed nutritionist and registered dietitian and the Project Director for the Montana Team Nutrition Program located at Montana State University in the Department of Health and Human Development. She is a Certified School Nutrition Specialist through the School Nutrition Association.

Team Nutrition is the nutrition education and training component for School Nutrition Programs of the Montana Office of Public Instruction. She coordinates statewide training activities to support school districts and early childhood programs in creating healthy nutrition environments. Her work is directed to training food service professionals in the preparation and service of healthy meals and snacks, recess before lunch scheduling, as well as nutrition education, and school wellness policy implementation. Ms. Bark and her colleagues are also working on farm to school projects to help connect children to their food source and support local food procurement. Ms. Bark is an active member of Eat Right Montana Coalition, Montana Action for Healthy Kids Team, Montana Partnership to End Childhood Hunger and President of Montana Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.

Ms. Bark can be reached at (406) 994-5641 or by E-mail at [kbark@mt.gov](mailto:kbark@mt.gov). For more information on Montana Team Nutrition Program check out the following web site: <http://www.opi.mt.gov/MTTeam.html>.

Sponsored by Montana Team Nutrition, Montana State University in cooperation with Office of Public Instruction, School Nutrition Programs.

### **Fall 2014 Edition of the Montana High School Business Challenge**

The key to getting your students to understand key business concepts is through hands-on activity. If you've not yet done so, consider this simulation designed to develop management, financial, marketing and critical thinking skills in a competitive, learning enhanced environment.

The Montana High School Business Challenge, sponsored by the Montana Chamber Foundation and administered by the Montana Council on Economic Education lets your students actively participate in a state-wide simulation as real entrepreneurs. The students manage the business of a Digital Music Player manufacturer, and many daily decisions face the students, including financial, ethical, legal, and competitive issues. It is a dynamic simulation that can be incorporated into many different class disciplines.

The state-wide competition runs eight weeks, beginning Wednesday, October 8 and concluding Wednesday, December 10. College scholarships are awarded to the top three teams. The cost is \$15.00 per team.

**REGISTERING TEAMS FOR FALL SEMESTER? QUESTIONS?:** To register teams for the fall Business Challenge competition or if you have any questions, please contact Tim Alzheimer via e-mail, [timalz@montana.edu](mailto:timalz@montana.edu), or by telephone, 994-2263 for further information. Team registration deadline is Wednesday, October 1.

**FIRST TIME PARTICIPANTS:** First-time participants need to be trained prior to involvement in the Business Challenge by webinar training sessions which introduces the teacher to the concepts and procedures the simulation. It will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday, September 30 and October 1, from 4:30-6:00 p.m. If you are a first-time participant, or simply want to re-familiarize yourself with the fundamentals of the Business Challenge, please register online at: <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/221176496>.

**REFRESHER WEBINAR FOR PAST PARTICIPANTS:** A webinar is scheduled on Monday, September 29, from 4:30-6:00 p.m. for teachers that have previously participated in the Challenge who want to refresh their skills and learn more about the simulation. This webinar is voluntary, and is open only to teachers that have previous HSBC involvement. Space is limited. The web address to register for this webinar is <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/657796225>.

### **MCEE-Sponsored Stock Market Game Competition Begins October 8**

Want to facilitate learning that is exciting and fun for both you and your students? Ask Sonja Mangel from Westby, Fred Petek from Billings West, or other teachers you know that have participated about the benefits of involving their classes in The Stock Market Game™ sponsored by the Montana Council on Economic Education.

The program is easy to administer, and teaches and reinforces these essential skills and concepts: Critical Thinking, Decision-making, Cooperation and Communication, Primary Research, and Saving and investing. Students use real internet research and news updates, making the simulation an even better mirror of the real marketplace. While the competitive gameplay creates student excitement, the educational experience delivers the biggest impact. Cash prizes are also awarded for the top three teams.

**Registering Teams for the Stock Market Game:** Competition begins on October 8, 2014, and runs for 10 weeks. To find out more information and register teams for competition, go to [www.stockmarketgame.org](http://www.stockmarketgame.org), and click on the registration link in the upper right-hand corner.

**Training Webinar:** A training webinar is scheduled for Thursday, October 2, from 4:30-6:00 p.m. It is designed for those that have never participated in the Stock Market Game, or for those wanting to better understand the game functions. Attendance is not mandatory, but encouraged. Seating is limited. To register for the webinar, go to: <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/788138112>.

What students gain from The Stock Market Game™ program is a remarkable experience—and even more important, an education for life. If you have any questions, please contact Tim Alzheimer at [timalz@montana.edu](mailto:timalz@montana.edu), or by telephone, 406.994.2263.

### **Register Today for the 2014 MBEA/Montana ACTE Institute**

**Registration** is now available for the [2014 Montana ACTE Institute](http://www.montanaacte.org) on the Montana ACTE website at [www.montanaacte.org](http://www.montanaacte.org). This year's Institute, *The Common Core Advantage 2.0: Strategies That Work in CTE*,

will be held at the Holiday Inn Missoula Downtown, October 16-17. Early bird registration ends October 1.

The Montana ACTE Institute is Montana's premier professional development opportunity for Career and Technical Education professionals and Montana's business and marketing educators.

Be sure to make your Holiday Inn Missoula Downtown hotel reservations early as well. Reservations can be made by calling the Holiday Inn at 406.721.8550. The Montana ACTE room block ends September 20—don't delay, book today.

### **Professional Development Designed Specifically for those New to the Career & Technical Education Classroom**

The Office of Public Instruction's Career and Technical Education Specialists will be conducting a **New CTE Professionals Workshop** on Wednesday, October 15, in Missoula at the Holiday Inn Downtown, prior to the start of the 2014 Montana ACTE Fall Institute. The New CTE Professionals Workshop is a **FREE** professional development opportunity 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

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

The workshop will be held at the Missoula Holiday Inn Downtown (200 South Pattee Street) from 8 am to 4 pm. The training is free of charge and lunch will be provided for attendees. Up to six (6) OPI Renewal Units will be offered.

Additional details about the New CTE Professionals Workshop, including a schedule of events, are currently posted on the Secondary CTE page of the OPI website (<http://opi.mt.gov/programs/CTAE/CTE.html>) under the **In The News** heading and can be downloaded via the following link:

<http://opi.mt.gov/pdf/CTE/14OctNewProfessionalsWrkshp.pdf>.

Registration for the 2014 New CTE Professionals Workshop can be completed and submitted online at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FKDN7ZH>. The deadline to register is Monday, October 6.

## Recognize an Outstanding Montana Business Educator

Do you have an outstanding business teacher on your staff or know a business teacher who deserves to be recognized for their contributions to the business education profession?

The Montana Business Education Association is seeking nominations for its 2014 Awards Program. Please consider nominating an awesome business educator for recognition in October during the Montana ACTE Fall Institute in Missoula.

Categories include Young Business Teacher of the Year (5 years or less) and Secondary Business Teacher of the Year (the winner for Young Business Teacher of the Year and Secondary Business Teacher of the Year will compete to move on to the Montana ACTE awards competition). Also consider nominating an outstanding contributor to Business Educators which can be an individual or a business.

We would like to congratulate our 2013 winners:

- Business Teacher of the Year - Elaine Stedman, Sidney High School
- Young Business Teacher of the Year - Beth Lawrence, Garfield County High School
- Outstanding Contributor to Business Education – Bank of Baker, Dean Wang, President

Letters of nomination can be sent to Scott Anderson, MBEA Past President, at [andersons@baker.k12.mt.us](mailto:andersons@baker.k12.mt.us), [scott@bakerahcs.com](mailto:scott@bakerahcs.com) or faxed to 406.778.2785.

All nominations are due by September 26, 2014.

## Helpful CTE information to begin a new School Year

Welcome back to school from all of the OPI staff in the Career and Technical Education division!

### **Helpful CALENDARS now on the Secondary CTE web page**

As the new school year begins, you'll find two very helpful CTE-related calendars now posted on our web page. Although all CTE due dates and deadlines are already posted on the general OPI calendar, we thought this would be an additional help to you.

First, the **DUE DATES and DEADLINES Calendar** lists all due dates and deadlines relating to CTE accountability data and money-related concerns. Second, the **2014-2015 CTE Calendar of Events** lists additional dates and happenings related to Career and Technical Education such as student organization conference dates and teacher professional development.

You will find both calendars on the Secondary CTE web page under the 'Calendar' tab and located here: [http://opi.mt.gov/programs/CTAE/CTE.html#p7GPc1\\_5](http://opi.mt.gov/programs/CTAE/CTE.html#p7GPc1_5).

### **Latest Information from CTE Program Specialists**

You'll also find the latest monthly update from our CTE Division Specialists on our web page under the 'Updates--Latest CTE Info' tab and located here: [http://opi.mt.gov/programs/CTAE/CTE.html#gpm1\\_15](http://opi.mt.gov/programs/CTAE/CTE.html#gpm1_15).

As always, please feel free to contact us at 406.444.9019 if you have questions or if we can be of service or help to you as we all serve the great students in our Montana schools.

### **Great rates for the Jump\$tart National Educators Conference**

Calling all teachers! [Registration is now open](#) for the 6th Annual **Jump\$tart National Educator Conference**, devoted to classroom educators who teach personal finance or want to incorporate money lessons into other subject matter, grades PreK-12. Join us November 8-10, 2014 at the Omni Hotel at California Plaza, Los Angeles, CA.

Through the generosity of [Experian](#), [Wells Fargo Foundation](#), and many sponsors, Jump\$tart is able to offer teachers the very special price of **\$425**, which includes conference registration; conference meals and receptions; some materials, including a print copy of the *National Standards in K-12 Personal Finance Education*; and two nights' hotel accommodations. Teachers are offered optional, private sessions with financial planners. The exhibit hall is devoted to personal finance curricula and other resources.

For more information, please visit the Jump\$tart [website](#) or [Facebook](#) page. Conference director, [Dan Hebert](#) is waiting to hear from you. Share this good news with the educators you know.

### **CSCI 191 CodeMontana: Intro to CS Course**

Montana Tech is partnering with CodeMontana to offer college credits for completing their online curriculum through the CodeHS program. Like other college courses, these credits may transfer to other universities in Montana and in the country, possibly as an entry-level programming course depending on your major.

Juniors and seniors in high school have the opportunity to apply for the 3-credit course for a tuition fee of \$148.74. The course will be offered in the fall and spring semesters at Montana Tech, and is an online course using the CodeMontana curriculum while utilizing a Montana Tech instructor for help and to grade the exercises.

To sign up for the course, register for CodeMontana, then complete the 2014-2015 Jump Start form at <http://institute.mtech.edu/jump-start/> and register as an early "college-credit-only" course. More specific information can be found at that site. A [press release](#) about the course is also available.

By completing 100% of the course, students with an ACT Math score of 24 or higher will also qualify for a [\\$4000 CodeMontana Scholarship](#) to study computer science or software engineering at Montana Tech

### **ACTE Receives Gates Grant to Support CTE Teachers with Common Core Implementation**

The Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) has been awarded funding by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation as part of a robust, multi-network effort to help teachers across the country better connect to share instructional best practices and strategies to implement the Common Core State Standards (CCSS). The funding will help ACTE build a national online teacher practice network titled "CORE Community," which will focus on supporting career and technical education (CTE) professionals to implement CCSS strategies aligned with their unique roles and abilities.

"We are thrilled to receive this Teacher Practice Network grant from the Gates Foundation," said ACTE Executive Director LeAnn Wilson. "Teachers are asking for more support in the classroom to meet state and local standards. With support from our partners, the CORE Community will help ACTE to answer that call and build a stronger network of CTE educators nationwide, all focused on improving the quality of CTE instruction and improving collaboration across the curriculum."

The University of Central Missouri (UCM) is a primary partner working with ACTE to provide the content to fuel the online program. UCM has a history of CCSS support in Missouri, and has worked with ACTE to share that support to a wider national audience. ""We are very excited to join ACTE with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation grant to strengthen CTE teachers' ability to address essential learning standards," said Dr. Michael Wright, Dean, UCM College of Education. "The UCM, as part of its institutional mission, has a long history of serving CTE teachers and students. This is a tremendous opportunity for the CTE community to develop online collaborative learning communities, and we are pleased to be a part of this ground-breaking work." Other important partners include the Association for Career and Technical Education Research, National Association of State Directors of Career Technical Education Consortium and National Center for Literacy Education.

ACTE has received the award during the second round of Teacher Practice Network grants, which will support 14 organizations working with more than 110,000 teachers. The first round of grants was awarded in 2013, and funded 21 organizations for projects supporting 350,000 teachers across the U.S.

Other organizations that are part of Teacher Practice Networks include the following: The Achievement Network, ASCD, Center for Teaching Quality, Constitutional Rights Foundation, Institute for the Study of Knowledge Management in Education, International Society for Technology in Education, KnowledgeWorks Foundation, National Center for Family Literacy, National Council for the Social Studies, National Council of Teachers of English, National Math and Science Initiative, National Writing Project and New Visions for Public Schools.

Information about the project, including how CTE teachers can participate in the CORE Community, will be published on [www.acteonline.org/Corecommunity/](http://www.acteonline.org/Corecommunity/) as it becomes available.

### **Fun Facts and Trivia**

Every day 20 banks are robbed. The average take is \$2,500.

The most popular first name in the world is Muhammad.

Tablecloths were originally meant to be served as towels with which dinner guests could wipe their hands and faces after eating.

Tourists visiting Iceland should know that tipping at a restaurant is considered an insult.

One car out of every 230 made was stolen last year.

Until the nineteenth century, solid blocks of tea were used as money in Siberia.

When glass breaks, the cracks move faster than 3,000 miles per hour. To photograph the event, a camera must shoot at a millionth of a second.

Issues of the Wednesday Reader are 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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