

The Wednesday Reader

October 7, 2015

Please note with the 2015 New CTE Professionals Workshop and 2015 Montana ACTE Fall Institute next week there will not be a Wednesday Reader for Wednesday, October 14.

New STEM Course from EverFi

EverFi (www.everfi.com) has a new STEM course now available.

This course, sponsored by the National Hockey League/NHLPA and available to schools at no-cost, brings science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) concepts to life through the exciting, fast-paced game of hockey. Using immersive hockey simulations, content enables 4th - 7th grade students to explore real-life applications of fundamental STEM concepts.

This online learning course combines the power of cutting-edge instructional design, standards based alignment, and game-based simulations to build student's confidence, mastery, and excitement around critical STEM topics. To learn more, please see an overview of the course [here](#) and a video overview [here](#).

For further information, contact Mick Karls of EverFi, in Helena, at 204-1148 or at mick@everfi.com.

MSU Entrepreneurship Day Taking Place November 9 – Registration Due October 16

The Jake Jabs College of Business and Entrepreneurship (JJCBE) has a very exciting 12th annual Entrepreneur Day planned for Monday, November 9, 2015 at the MSU campus in Bozeman. This event is geared towards students interested in entrepreneurship and business but it is also a great opportunity to visit a land grant university and learn more about higher education. The business school with option areas in Accounting, Finance, Management and Marketing, is accredited by AACSB; only 5% of all business schools hold this distinction.

This year, the owner of [Olivelle](#), Brie Thompson, will be the keynote speaker. It began when Brie was searching for a Christmas gift for her mother when she was a sophomore year in college. She stumbled upon an Oil & Vinegar store and immediately knew she could create that perfect gift. Two years later, in 2006, the mother and daughter team of Michelle Schaeffer and Brie Thompson (Schaeffer at the time) decided to open products previously only available in larger an Oil & Vinegar franchise. Their small, hometown of Bozeman, Montana finally had the high quality gourmet markets. After a few turns, Olivelle was born!

Each session is designed to be motivating and educational. We invite you to inform your students of this great event and encourage them to attend. Entrepreneurship Day is free and does include lunch for students. The event is sponsored in part with funding from Boeing.

The tentative schedule for the day is as follows:

9:30 a.m. - Check-In

10 a.m. - Welcome/Overview

10:20 a.m. - Interactive Workshop with JJCBE faculty and students

--Like last year, participants will be split the into two groups; one group will participate in the workshop and the other group will tours campus, groups will switch half way through.

--Two meeting times are scheduled for Advisors/Teachers to meet with the Director of the Entrepreneurship Center

12:15 p.m. – Lunch

1 p.m. - Keynote, Q&A

2 p.m. - Business Student-led interactive workshop/activity

3 p.m. – Adjournment

While students are encouraged to stay for the entire event, the JJCBE understands that some may have conflicting schedules, so they are invited to come as they are able. JJCBE does do ask that an advisor or teacher accompany the students if possible. Due to space limitations, reserve your school's seats as soon as possible.

To accommodate proper set up, handouts and food preparation, please click on this link—<http://goo.gl/forms/Bu7NeyBkVi>—to reserve a spot for your school immediately and send the student list on/before October 16 (Format = Student Last Name, Student First Name, School Name) to Lward@montana.edu.

Please contact Linda Ward (lward@montana.edu) if you have any questions or concerns.

Additional information about the Jake Jobs College of Business and Entrepreneurship can be found at <http://www.montana.edu/business/index.html>.

NGPF Creates On-Line Library of Free Lessons, Activities for Educators

Next Gen Personal Finance (www.nextgenpersonalfinance.org) offers a free online curriculum of 65+ complete lessons and 100+ standalone activities you can access from anywhere.

Next Gen Personal Finance (NGPF) has produced a library of lessons and activities for all educators, online and 100 percent free.

NGPF is modeled after the four C's, characteristics every teacher desires in their curriculum:

--Curated – NGPF's repository of the web's best articles, videos, charts and interactive activities saves educators countless hours.

--Cohesive – More than 1,500 resources are purposefully arranged into more than 65 lessons, over 11 units, to create one curriculum.

--Current – Daily blog posts and a constantly evolving curriculum keep educators abreast of developments in the personal finance landscape.

--Customizable – Educators can use a curriculum to fit their needs – either in its entirety or just selecting a few supplementary resources.

In addition to curriculum, Next Gen Personal Finance offers numerous other resources to assist educators:

- Newsletter – Provides monthly curriculum updates, recommendations on popular resources and teaching strategies.
- Webinar – Every month, NGPF provides a hands-on webinar to educate and assist teachers in developing new teaching strategies and resources.
- Podcasts – In August NGPF debuted its first podcast, with award-winning Wisconsin financial literacy teacher Mike Kania. A few times per week, NGPF interviews various guests on personal finance topics like classroom strategies, how to engage students, and what subjects are crucial for students' well being.

Financial literacy/personal finance topics in the [Next Gen Personal Finance](#) curriculum include checking, savings, credit cards, credit scores, paying for college, budgeting, investing, financial pitfalls, career development, taxes, and insurance.

To learn more about Next Gen Personal Finance, visit www.nextgenpersonalfinance.org. There you can access the entire curriculum, view the newsletter, sign up for a webinar, listen to a podcast and more. You also can find NGPF on Twitter (@NextGenPF) and Facebook (www.facebook.com/NextGenPersonalFinance).

H&R Block Budget Challenge is Teaching Money Doesn't Grow on Trees

Everyone knows money doesn't grow on trees. At least they will if H&R Block has any say in it. By learning strong budgeting skills and fiscal discipline early, kids can gain the knowledge and confidence to manage their own financial future.

The free [H&R Block Budget Challenge®](#) (www.hrblockdollarsandsense.com) encourages students to learn personal finance in a fun, engaging way while competing against other classrooms and students for \$3 million in classroom grants and student scholarships.

Competitions take place throughout the year; up-to-date teacher sign-up details are found at www.hrbd.org.

[Budget Challenge®](#) uses patented simulation technology and modern financial tools such as online banking and electronic bill-pay to immerse students into the daily life of a typical young adult living independently for the first time. Each student gets a regular paycheck, a bank account, a 401(k) savings account, and bills to pay throughout the multi-week simulation.

This year, for teachers, several new tools have been added so you can help students navigate the Budget Challenge®:

Teacher Roadmap

This tool will help the teachers by providing a week-by-week breakdown of simulation resources, tasks, suggested curriculum, and classroom activities.

Teachers Helping Teachers

A helpdesk of experienced personal finance teachers available to answer teacher questions throughout the simulation.

Teacher Simulation

Teacher accounts that play just like the students do. This allows teachers to see the game from the student perspective.

For more information about H&R Block Budget Challenge®, visit www.hrbds.org, and for more information about Budget Challenge® visit www.budgetchallenge.com.

Updated Framework for Business Education in Montana – Available for Download

Work has been completed to update the [Framework for Business Education in Montana](#). The Framework for Business Education in Montana provides teachers with common guidance for curriculum development and course content developed by a committee Montana business education professionals.

The course information within the Framework has been updated and is organized by Career Clusters. Additionally, course content is aligned to the *National Standards for Business Education*. The Common Career Technical Core is also included in the Framework as the standards for each cluster.

The Framework also includes a crosswalk to the *National Standards for Business Education* and crosswalks to the competitive event programs for Business Professionals of America and DECA--which further enhances and demonstrates the intracurricular relationship of business and marketing education programs to Career & Technical Student Organizations.

A complete PDF version of the Framework can be downloaded at <https://app.box.com/s/e4vxcib34pb7gkn2ypkqidwhj37uj5mz>. Additional information about the Framework for Business Education in Montana will be presented during the [2015 New CTE Professionals Workshop](#) and the [2015 Montana ACTE Fall Institute](#).

If you have problems accessing the Framework via the link above, please let me know.

The Hour of Code 2015 is Coming – Sign Up Today

Over the past two years, educators like you have helped introduce *100 million students worldwide* to computer science through the Hour of Code. I hope we can count on you to help us reach 100,000 Hour of Code events during Computer Science Education Week, December 7-13.

[Sign up your school](#)

New for 2015

This year, new tutorials will be designed for the high-school level. We'll also offer teacher-guided, one-hour lesson plans for experienced CS educators like yourself to share with colleagues.

Creative lessons can encourage new teachers all subject areas to get involved, by linking CS to their fields. Code.org and CSTA will jointly curate teacher-led lesson plans to add to the Hour of Code. See more details and [submit your Hour of Code lesson](#).

Register your ENTIRE school

Every participating educator will receive a thank-you gift and US public schools can [enter to win \\$10,000 of hardware](#) for introducing every student to their first Hour of Code.

As you know, one hour can be enough to inspire more learning. Let's make history again.

Start at <https://hourofcode.com/>

Fun Facts and Trivia

Spalding, an American sporting goods company, was founded by Albert Spalding in 1876.

Albert Spalding was a pitcher and the manager of a baseball team in Chicago, the Chicago White Stockings.

The company standardized early baseballs and developed the modern baseball bat with the bulge at its apex.

Spalding manufactured the official baseball of the major leagues through the 1976 season; since 1977 the official ball has been made by Rawlings.

Since 1983, Spalding has been the Official ball supplier to the NBA.

Spalding manufactures Sherrin footballs for Australian rules football and is the official ball of the Australian Football League.

In 2003, Spalding became a division of the Russell Corporation which includes Russell Athletic, Huffy, and Brooks.

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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"You don't make decisions because they are easy; you don't make them because they are cheap; you don't make them because they're popular; you make them because they're right." ~Rev. Theodore Hesburgh