

The Wednesday Reader, Tuesday Edition **November 10, 2015**

Please note there will not be a Wednesday Reader next week, November 18, as I will be attending and presenting at the ACTE 2015 CareerTech Vision conference in New Orleans. Also, with the Thanksgiving holiday the following week, there will not be a Wednesday Reader on Wednesday, November 25.

Final State CTE/VoEd Funding Allocations Finalized & Posted; Funds Released November 10

The FY2016 State Career and Technical Education allocation payments (i.e. State VoEd Allocations) have been finalized and will be automatically deposited with your county treasurer by November 10, 2015.

The Payment Report is posted both on the Payments to Schools and Co-Ops AND Secondary CTE pages of the OPI web site. The following link will take you directly to the FY2016 State VoEd Payment Report:
http://www.opi.mt.gov/Finance&Grants/Index.html?gpm=1_4.

A larger than normal number of corrections and additions have been made since the Preliminary allocations were posted on October 28, 2015. You will likely see a change in your final allocation due to these corrections.

State CTE (VoEd) allocations are based on a formula that factors:

1. High School student enrollment averages in career and technical education classes;
2. Extended contracts for properly endorsed career and technical education instructors;
3. Career and Technical Student Organization (CTSO) high school chapters and student membership;
4. District career and technical education expenditures.

The enrollment and extended contract information comes from the 'Career and Technical Education Student Participation Reports' your district submits to our office each February. CTSO information comes from National Membership lists provided to the CTE Division each spring. The district expenditures are determined from financial reports sent to the Office of Public Instruction.

Only CTE programs that meet the general guidelines in the *Montana Standards and Guidelines for Career and Vocational/Technical Education* are included in the CTE enrollment factor. Enrollment calculations are based on Montana Accreditation Standards.

State CTE funds are intended to supplement existing district budgets in the area of career and technical education. Examples of approved use of state CTE funds include: CTE teacher salaries for extended contracts, stipends to CTE teachers for supervision of CTSO's, instructional supplies and/or instructional equipment used in an approved program, instruction-related travel expenses for an approved CTE program or CTSO, repair, maintenance and leasing of instructional equipment for an approved CTE program.

Mark Your Calendars--Montana OPI to Host Advanced Placement Summer Institute in June 2016

The Montana Office of Public Instruction has been approved by the College Board to offer an AP Summer Institute. The Montana Advanced Placement[®] Summer Institute will be held in Bozeman, June 27-30, 2016. Sessions will be held at Willson School and Bozeman High School.

The Montana Advanced Placement[®] Summer Institute will cover AP[®] Biology, AP[®] Computer Science, AP[®] English Literature and Composition, and AP[®] Statistics. Training will be conducted by national and western region experts in the subject areas.

For Montana's business educators, this is a great professional development opportunity for those teaching computer science-related courses to get hands-on training about the content and preparation for the AP[®] Computer Science as well as to learn more about teaching computer science regardless if you plan to offer the AP[®] Computer Science exam to your students.

AP Computer Science A is equivalent to a first-semester, college-level course in computer science. The course introduces students to computer science with fundamental topics that include problem solving, design strategies and methodologies, organization of data (data structures), approaches to processing data (algorithms), analysis of potential solutions, and the ethical and social implications of computing. The course emphasizes both object-oriented and imperative problem solving and design using Java language. These techniques represent proven approaches for developing solutions that can scale up from small, simple problems to large, complex problems. The AP[®] Computer Science A course curriculum is compatible with many CS1 courses in colleges and universities.

Students should be able to

- Design, implement, and analyze solutions to problems;
- Use and implement commonly used algorithms;
- Develop and select appropriate algorithms and data structures to solve new problems;
- Write solutions fluently in an object-oriented paradigm;
- Write, run, test, and debug solutions in the Java programming language, utilizing standard Java library classes and interfaces from the AP Java subset;
- Read and understand programs consisting of several classes and interacting objects;
- Read and understand a description of the design and development process leading to such a program; and
- Understand the ethical and social implications of computer use.

Topics within the AP Computer Science A exam include

- Object-Oriented Program Design
- Program Implementation
- Program Analysis
- Standard Data Structures
- Standard Operations and Algorithms
- Computing in Context

To learn more about the AP Computer Science exam, visit

http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/public/courses/teachers_corner/4483.html and review the AP[®] Computer Science A course description, the teacher's guide, and the two-page course overview.

Participation tuition will be \$475 per person and includes lunch daily. Attendees can choose to receive 30 OPI renewal units at no cost or opt for two (2) graduate continuing education credits from MSU for \$135. The required work for the college credit is the same as is required by College Board to teach an AP course.

Participants will be responsible for the costs of travel, lodging, and meals. There may be scholarship opportunities via the College Board's Rural Fellows program which would cover all costs of participation.

Please note, in order for a subject area training to be held, a minimum number of participants (12-14) must be registered 60 days from the beginning of the Montana Advanced Placement® Summer Institute.

Additional information, including registration, will be available after the first of the year.

Take a Virtual Field Trip & Meet Real-Life CPAs – No Permission Slips Required

Join the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) and [Start Here, Go Places](#). *virtually* as they venture off to Northern California.

The AICPA is so excited about the Fall 2015 virtual field trip with Okorie Ramsey, Vice President, Finance Compliance Officer & SOX for Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc. and Kaiser Foundation Hospitals. He is a strong leader, has some pretty enviable companies on his resume, is super involved in mentoring and is an all-around great guy. You and your class are going to love him.

Here are several topics Okorie will cover:

- What it's like to work in financial compliance
- How he got interested in accounting
- What it takes to be Vice President and FCO
- What he loves about his job
- Why he's so passionate about mentoring
- What he has to say to future CPAs

Okorie won't be the only one talking though. At the end of the presentation, your students will be invited to ask questions. There are few things Okorie enjoys more than guiding future CPAs, so feel free to pick his brain!

[Register your class](#) for the trip to meet Okorie at 1pm EST on Tuesday, November 17.

The Start Here, Go Places.® Student Edition is all Shiny and New!

Remember how you felt a few weeks ago when the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) launched the new Start Here, Go Places. Teacher Edition site? Excited? Giddy? Over the moon? Well, you don't get to have all the fun! Now the all-new Student Edition site is up and running, too.

Students are pretty tough to impress, so the new student site is 100% boring-proof. It has a totally fresh look, is more user-friendly and is home to tons of new stuff like an interactive tools and games section featuring a stash of awesome, accounting-related activities for students.

Salary Snapshot lets students see how lucrative a career in accounting can be and has been totally redesigned. Plus, the FutureMe™ builder, one of the most popular online tools, has also been completely overhauled. It's pretty cool. Your students just answer a few questions about what topics they're interested in and our magic ball will show them where that could lead them in the accounting world.

And, of course, they have kept all of the other goodies like profiles of real CPAs, a college search section, virtual field trips, the online version of Start Here Magazine and more.

So, without further adieu, take a look around the new Student Edition at www.startheregoplaces.com/students.

PS. If you haven't already registered for the upcoming virtual field trip with Okorie Ramsey, [register now](#). Your students will be inspired.

December 1 is Deadline to Register for WBEA 2016: Lōkahi – United on the Journey to Success

The 2016 [Western Business Education Association \(WBEA\)](#) Conference will be held February 12-15, 2016 in Honolulu, Hawaii at the Waikiki Beach Marriott.

The [2016 WBEA Conference](#) will feature computer workshops, breakout sessions, professional tours, exhibits, and many Hawaiian-themed events. A description of computer workshops is available at <http://bit.ly/wbea2016cw>. Below is a brief outline of the conference's schedule.

Thursday, February 11

-WBEA Executive Committee Meeting (afternoon/evening)

Friday, February 12

- Professional Development Day Tours (8 a.m.-4 p.m.)
- Computer Workshops (8 a.m.-4 p.m.)
- WBEA Presidents-Elect/Membership/PDI Training
- WBEA Executive Board Meeting (12:30-5 p.m.)
- Conference General Opening Session (5:30-7:30 p.m.)
- Exhibitors' Reception (7:30-9 p.m.)

Saturday, February 13

- Computer Workshops (8 a.m.-3:30 p.m.)
- Breakout Sessions (8 a.m.-2:45 p.m.)
- Conference General Session, Lunch (11:45 a.m.-1:15 p.m.)
- Cultural Experience & Hawaiian Laua (optional fee) (4-9:30 p.m.)

Sunday, February 14

- Breakout Sessions (8:30 a.m.-Noon)
- Awards Dinner and Conference General Closing Session (5:45-8:15 p.m.)

The Early-Bird WBEA member registration rate is \$230 if submitted/postmarked by December 1, 2015. Links to both the online registration and printable registration form can be found on the 2016 WBEA Conference website at hbea.org/WBEA2016.html.

The 2016 WBEA Conference hotel rates at the [Waikiki Beach Marriott](#) are \$229 plus tax. Hotel reservations can be made directly at hbea.org/WBEA2016_hotel.html. The WBEA 2016 room block ends January 8, 2016. The room rate will be available for three days before and after the conference dates.

WBEA Awards – Now is the Time to Nominate, Nominations Due December 1

The [Western Business Education Association \(WBEA\)](#) is now accepting nominations for the 2016 WBEA Awards Program. The 2016 WBEA awards will be presented during the [2016 WBEA Conference](#) in Honolulu, Hawaii.

It is so easy for you to nominate a well-deserving colleague for a [WBEA award](#). There is no more printing, writing, wasting paper, and having to go to the post office. All award nomination forms are fillable forms and all submissions are done via e-mail.

Award categories include

- Distinguished Service Award for a Company
- Distinguished Service Award for an Individual
- Outstanding Business Educator, Middle or Junior High School
- Outstanding Business Educator, High School
- Outstanding Business Educator, University
- Outstanding Business Educator, Post-Secondary
- Outstanding Career & Technical Student Organization Advisor
- Communication Award

The deadline for all award nominations is December 1, 2015. Complete award details can be found on the WBEA website at <http://wbea.info/new/awards/awards.html>.

If you have any questions, please contact WBEA Awards Director Kristina Yamada at 801.725.2500 or at kyamadaut@comcast.net.

Register Today for the 2015 Hour of Code, December 7-13

The [Hour of Code](#) has previously been announced to the United States and last week, the official announcement for the 2015 campaign was sent out worldwide.

Here's an exciting update: *every* [Hour of Code](#) organizer worldwide will receive a gift card to iTunes, Amazon or the Windows Store as a thank you gift—as long as you are registered.

Are you in? Together with your help, [Hour of Code](#) wants to reach 100,000 classrooms during December 7-13. So far, over 48,000 organizers have signed up. Visit <https://hourofcode.com/us> today to sign up.

If you don't sign up, you'll miss out on

1. Your thank-you gift
2. Exciting new tutorials, coming in a few weeks
3. The new volunteer match—Hour of Code is recruiting experts in your area who want to help you with your Hour of Code

In just one hour you can empower students to keep learning.

Every student today deserves the opportunity to learn foundational 21st-century skills.

Are you in? Sign up for the Hour of Code 2015 today at <https://hourofcode.com/us>.

Google for Education Online Computational Thinking Course

Google for Education (www.google.com/edu) is relaunching their free, online course on computational thinking (CT) where educators can explore and learn more about what CT is and how it can be integrated into a variety of subject areas that they teach, whether it be computer science, humanities, math, or science. Note: if you previously took this course, but did not have the chance to finish, you can register and take it again.

For more information or to sign up, visit g.co/computationalthinking. The course runs until December 20 and can be completed at your own pace, taking between 15-30 hours to complete.

To check out lessons and projects created by educators who have already started to think about integrating CT into their work, visit <https://goo.gl/1L3Wc>.

To join in the discussion about CT and learn from other educators from around the world, visit <https://goo.gl/tf1t7o>.

For additional resources on CT, including classroom-ready lesson plans, videos on how Google uses CT to do some amazing things, and more, visit g.co/exploringCT.

Montana Business Education Curriculum Resources Available for Download

Over the course of the summer and fall, copies of the Montana Business Education Curriculum Resources binder have been distributed to Montana's business education professionals during various professional development events and at meetings for Montana BPA and Montana DECA.

The Montana Business Education Curriculum Resources binder contains materials relating to the teaching of business education as well as the latest edition of the OPI TEAMS School Staffing System's K-12 Course Codes and Descriptions manual. The K-12 Course Codes and Descriptions manual is used by local Montana school districts when reporting data and the data from the TEAMS School Staffing System is now used to complete CTE Student Enrollment Participation Reports. The binder also includes a calendar of events related to business education, career & technical education, BPA, and DECA as well as a worksheet classroom teachers can use to provide information to local TEAMS authorized representatives to ensure the data submitted is complete and correct.

All of the documentation included in the Montana Business Education Curriculum Resources binder can be downloaded from the following box.com folder: <https://app.box.com/s/v2c6vq53wjz3pzz3ctk370qjffh5iu>. The folder contains the following resources

- Montana Business Education Curriculum Resources binder cover and spine (formatted for 1" binders)
- Montana Business Education Planning Calendar for the 2015-2016 School Year
- Montana Business Education Curriculum Resources binder information sheet describing the contents of the binder
- Framework for Business Education Montana, Updated Spring 2015
- Updated crosswalks for BPA and DECA competitive events for the 2015-2016 membership year (for those who already have a copy of the Framework for Business Education)

- The complete Montana K-12 Course Codes and Descriptions for use for the 2015-2016 school year; the manual was updated October 2, 2015
- National Standards for Business Education, 2013 edition from the National Business Education Association
- Common Career Technical Core
- Draft copy of the Montana CTE Guidelines for Business and Marketing Education Programs and Cooperative Work Experience

If you have problems accessing the files via the link above, please let me know and I can send you files directly. I do have limited copies of complete Montana Business Education Curriculum Resources binders and I can mail a copy to you upon request.

Apply Today for the NBEA Convention's First-Time Attendee Stipend

The [2016 National Business Education Association Annual Convention](#) will be held in Las Vegas at The Cosmopolitan Las Vegas March 22-26, 2016. If you are a professional member of NBEA and have never attended the annual national convention, you are eligible for a professional development stipend.

The \$200 stipends will be presented at the NBEA awards luncheon on Friday, March 25, 2016.

Recipients must purchase a ticket and attend the luncheon where they will receive the stipend from NBEA President Robert B. Blair. Applicants must be current NBEA professional members at the time of application.

Recipients will be notified by February 5, 2016. To apply for a stipend, the application form can be downloaded from the NBEA 2016 Annual Convention page at www.nbea.org/newsite/conferences/convention/convention.html.

Applications must be received at NBEA headquarters by January 2, 2016. No exceptions will be made.

Apply Today for an NBEA Scholarship – Deadline is December 1

This year, the [National Business Education Association](http://www.nbea.org) (www.nbea.org) will award two \$1,500 scholarships to individuals pursuing continuing education or graduate study in business education. The scholarships recognize and support educators who give evidence of leadership and scholarship potential in the field of business education. The NBEA Scholarship Program provides financial assistance to outstanding individuals for the purpose of continuing their study and professional development in business education.

Are you enrolled in a college or university post- baccalaureate or graduate-level program? Can you submit proof of enrollment?

Are you enrolled in a business education program and/or other related area in business?

Can you submit proof of completion of at least two graduate courses (six semester hours)?

Are you currently teaching and will continue to teach in the field of business education?

Are you a current professional member of NBEA and been a member for least one full year?

If you answered 'yes' to all of these questions, then you need to apply for the [NBEA Scholarship](#)! Two \$1,500 scholarships will be awarded at the [NBEA 2016 Annual Convention](#) in Las Vegas, Nevada, March 22-26, 2016. Scholarship recipients will be introduced and accept their awards at the NBEA Awards Luncheon on Friday, March 25.

To access a complete list of the eligibility requirements and the scholarship application please visit nbea.org/newsite/opportunities/scholarships.html. The deadline to apply is December 1.

For information regarding the [NBEA 2016 Annual Convention](#) in Las Vegas, Nevada, March 22-26, 2016, please visit nbea.org/newsite/conferences/convention/convention.html.

New STEM Course from EverFi

[EverFi](http://www.everfi.com) (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.

Fun Facts and Trivia

Play-Doh was first manufactured as wallpaper cleaner in the 1930s.

When a classroom of children began using the wallpaper cleaner as a modeling compound, the product was reworked and marketed to Cincinnati schools in the mid-1950s.

In 1960, the Play-Doh Fun Factory was invented.

The Play-Doh Fuzzy Pumper Barber & Beauty Shop of 1977 featured a figurine whose extruded "hair" could be styled.

Making its debut in 1996 for computer-savvy young modelers was an educational software CD-ROM game, *Play-Doh Creation*.

The Play-Doh Creativity Table was made available in 2003

In April 2015, 20th Century Fox announced work on a Play-Doh movie with Hasbro & Chernin Entertainment producing.

Many home-made Play-Doh recipes include salt, flour or corn starch, a vegetable oil (such as canola or olive oil) and cream of tartar

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