

Sidney High School Business Teacher Named WBEA Outstanding Business Educator

During the 2016 Western Business Education Association Conference held in Honolulu, Hawaii, February 11-15, Sidney High School business teacher and Business Professionals of America chapter advisor Elaine Stedman received the 2016 Outstanding Business Educator award for the high school division.

Elaine Stedman has been a long-time supporter of business education. For the past 36 years, she has taught business classes at both the junior high and high school in Sidney. She currently shares her wealth of knowledge as a teacher at Montana Digital Academy and as an adjunct professor at Dawson Community College.

Elaine is involved in local, regional, and national organizations including the Montana Association for Career and Technical Education, the Montana Business Education Association, and the Western Business Education Association. She is active in her community and recently accepted the position of Executive Director of the Richland County Boys and Girls Club. Elaine also has abundant leadership experience in Business Professionals of America. Elaine's leadership roles within Business Professionals of America have included serving on the Montana State Board of Directors, including the board's chair, Montana Region 8 Coordinator, a member of the State Leadership Conference Committee, and is currently the Montana representative on the national level Classroom Educators Advisory Council.

According to Eric Swenson, Business Education Specialist with the Montana Office of Public Instruction, "Mrs. Elaine Stedman is truly one of a kind. She teaches full time, serves as a local BPA chapter advisor, is a board member of two national-level professional organizations, is an executive director of a local Boys and Girls Club, is a wife, a mother, a grandmother, and most important a dear friend to all who know her. Her character, determination, drive, leadership, and passion is inspirational and mind-boggling. Her compassion for education, her students, fellow teachers, and her community can never be matched and are an inspiration to all who know her and who have the privilege to work with her. Elaine fights for what she knows is right, she fights for the rights of her students, and does so with an open mind, open heart, and the desire to make sure all her students are "life" ready. Mrs. Elaine Stedman is more than a Teacher of the Year; she is the Teacher of a Lifetime for the many lives she has touched. The Montana Business Education Association is extremely proud and honored to have a professional of such a high caliber in our family."

Currently, Elaine is serving as the President Elect of the Western Business Education Association and will take over as President beginning July 1, 2016. The Western Business Education Association is the western regional affiliate of the National Business Education Association. The Western Business Education Association is comprised of business educators from the 10 western states, including Hawaii and Alaska, and Alberta, British Columbia, and the Yukon.

CTE Student Participation Report Data Verification Needed – Data Used for State CTE Funding

The 2015-2016 Career and Technical Education (CTE) Student Participation Report Information used for CTE program approval and CTE State funding allocations will be extracted from the TEAMS (*Terms of Employment, Accreditation, and Master Schedule*) information already submitted and on file at the OPI. This change means CTE teachers and/or other district personnel will NOT be submitting participation report information via an online link as they have in the past.

A few items on the CTE tab will require each districts' attention now. The items that need to be verified are: CTE programs offered, CTE teachers with an extended contract, and identifying the number of males and females enrolled in each CTE course (only enrollment totals were reported).

The deadline for changes to be made is March 15, 2016. Since this data was due by December 31, this will be the only reminder to verify your data. Please share this information with your CTE staff.

In order to help your staff verify their class information, use the worksheet [here](#) to help guide teachers in filling out the CTE information needed. The CTE Worksheet is also posted on the OPI website under 'Secondary CTE' on the 'Data Collections' tab.

--CTE Worksheet Link: http://www.opi.mt.gov/pdf/CTE/TEAMS_CTE_ParticipatioReportWorksheet.pdf

--TEAMS Link: <https://apps3.opi.mt.gov/SSO/Login?Login.aspx>

The CTE information collected in TEAMS is used for Carl Perkins accountability reporting and factors that determine the State CTE (State VoEd) allocation. Therefore, it is imperative that the information submitted is complete and accurate. Any high school district planning to apply for Carl Perkins and/or State CTE (State VoEd) funding for next year (2016-2017) should submit the additional data in TEAMS for all current CTE programs at their high school.

Technical TEAMS questions should be directed to Danielle Murphy, TEAMS Project Manager, by phone at 406.444.1625 or send her an email at: OPITEAMS@mt.gov.

Questions regarding the Perkins Federal Grant Program data requirements or CTE-related questions should be directed at Christy Hendricks, CTE/Perkins Data Specialist, by phone at 406.444.9019 or send her an email at: chendricks@mt.gov.

Montana Quality Educator Loan Assistance Program – Get \$3000 for Your Student Loans

The [Quality Educator Loan Assistance Program](#) provides for the direct repayment of educational loans. The total loan repayment assistance may not exceed \$3,000 per year for up to four years. Qualified applicants will be ranked based on a scoring system that takes into account the impacted schools and academic areas.

Applicants must submit a completed application to the Montana Guaranteed Student Loan Program (MGSLP) no later than March 31, 2016. Late and incomplete applications will not be accepted.

The number of annual awards is limited and contingent upon legislative appropriations. Each applicant will be scored according to the endorsement area and school of the applicant. Not all qualified applicants are guaranteed loan assistance. MGSLP will notify all award recipients by July 30, 2016. A notice will not be sent to non-recipients.

To qualify for the program you must meet the following requirements:

--A full-time educator holding a valid educator license or a licensed professional providing services to students in a school district, an education cooperative, the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind, the Montana Youth Challenge Program or a state youth correctional facility.

--Teaching in an impacted school. These are defined as more rural, have a higher percentage of economically disadvantaged students, and/or have greater challenges in closing the achievement gap.

--Teaching in an academic area impacted by [critical educator shortages](#). Please note, Business Education is grouped under the Career and Technical Education category.

Accepting Applications Until March 31, 2016. If you qualify for the program, [apply today](#) (registration required).

Complete details can be found at www.mgslp.org/repayment-options/discharge-and-forgiveness/quality-educator-loan-assistance-program.

2016 Google Apps Festival - Missoula Style

Sentinel High School will host [Google Apps Festival, Missoula Style](#) on Saturday, April 30.

[Google Apps Festival, Missoula Style](#) is a day-long event focused on the implementation and integration of Google Tools into an educational setting. This one-day event promises to be a high energy, fun-filled experience with plenty of opportunities for participants to learn, share, and connect with others.

The day's events will be held at Sentinel High School, 901 South Avenue West, from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm.

Workshop presenters include Google Certified Teachers, Certified Google Educators, administrators, and local teacher rock stars. Sessions will cover all levels of expertise, so whether you are a Google newbie or tech ninja, there will be workshops to meet your needs. Don't wait, get signed up today.

Registration can be completed online at googlefest.beyondthechalk.net/. The registration rate is \$100 for registrations submitted on or before March 16; after this date, the cost will be \$125.

Perkins Report Cards for Montana Schools Now Online

The Career and Technical Education Department has been working on new ways to keep Montana's schools updated and one of the latest ways we are doing so is by adding a new tab called Report Cards on the Secondary CTE page of the OPI website.

This Report Cards tab allows schools to view their individual 'Report Card' as well as 'Report Cards' by Class Size and CIP. Schools can also view the Montana State Report Card. The Report Cards are created from data collected from AIM.

The direct link to the Report Cards can be found at http://opi.mt.gov/Programs/CTAE/CTE.html#gpm1_12.

The Perkins Core Indicators as well as explanations and Threshold Targets for each indicator are available. The state goals for each core indicator are determined by the United States Department of Education.

Schools receiving Carl D. Perkins funding, are required to meet at least 90 percent of the state adjusted level of performance for any of the core indicators of performance.

If you have any questions about the report cards, please contact Christy Hendricks, CTE/Perkins Data Control Specialist, at 406.444.9019 or email her at chendricks@mt.gov.

Reminder to High School Districts with Remaining Perkins Funds

The CTE Division of the OPI is sending this friendly reminder to all high school districts with an outstanding 2015-2016 Perkins allocation to please obligate your remaining funds before the end of the current school year.

If you have questions regarding your Perkins balance or any submitted cash requests, please contact Leisa Blanton, Perkins Accountant, at 406-444-4403 or email her at lblanton@mt.gov.

If you have questions about obligating your Perkins funds, please contact either Brad King (Phone: 406.444.4451; email: bking2@mt.gov) or Renee Harris (Phone: 406.994.6986; email: rharris3@mt.gov).

Microsoft Innovative Educator Teacher Academy in Helena

Spend a day learning about all Microsoft's best tools and resources for classroom learning in the [Microsoft Innovative Educator Academy \(MIE\)](#) on March 12 in Helena.

This one-day session will be held at Capital High School and is completely FREE of charge.

Earn Microsoft bragging rights, MIE badge, completion certificate, and certification vouchers to advance your own professional learning in Microsoft Office Specialist and Microsoft Certified Educator exams. Receive up to 6 OPI renewal units at the completion of the day.

Improve your Microsoft skills and register for this event [here](#).

EPIQ 2016: A Conference for Experiencing Programming In the Quorum Programming Language

Are you interested in learning and teaching Computer Science? Come to the Experience Programming in Quorum (EPIQ) workshop and learn with us! EPIQ is a computer science training workshop for educators and professionals using the Quorum programming language held at the Washington State School for the Blind July 11-18, 2016.

Participants are encouraged to fly in the day before on July 10 and leave after the last session at Noon on July 18. More information on EPIQ can be found at <http://quorumlanguage.com/epiq.php>.

Who runs EPIQ:

The Quorum Outreach and Research Foundation (qorf.org). This organization works with several others that have helped with funding over the years, including the Washington State School for the Blind, Perkins School for the Blind, the Readers Digest Partners for Sight Foundation, the National Science Foundation, the University of Washington's Do-It program, the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, the University of Alabama in Huntsville, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, and others.

2016 Theme:

This year's theme is **Mobile and Games**. Specifically, whether returning or just starting, teachers will learn computer science concepts in the context of programming for mobile phones and 3D computer games. Like previous years, we will still have lessons dedicated to 2D gaming, LEGO robotics, auditory gaming, and others.

Here's a link to the LEGO kits: <http://www.lego.com/en-us/mindstorms/?domainredir=mindstorms.lego.com>.

Advanced teachers will do all of the above while also learning more advanced computer science concepts. As usual, the programming environments are designed to be understandable and usable by all, including those with disabilities.

EPIQ 2016 Tracks:

Attendees can choose between a beginner or advanced track and will spend the week learning how to use the accessible Integrated Development Environment: Sodbeans, and the Quorum Programming Language. The beginner track is geared for teachers that do not know how to program coming in, while the advanced track will cover concepts up to and beyond a second semester college course. Both tracks will contain new or updated content for EPIQ this year, largely due to a grant from the National Science Foundation.

Apply now!

Applications are now open for the conference. As always, funding and space are highly limited, so we strongly encourage applicants to fill out the survey below as soon as possible.

The application can be found at <http://goo.gl/forms/iN3J7jGYL6>.

The deadline for applications is March 1, so don't delay.

Please contact The EPIQ steering committee at epiq@gorf.org with any questions or concerns.

March 2 is Deadline for NBEA 2016 Annual Convention in Las Vegas Early-Bird Registration

Register today for the NBEA 2016 Annual Convention & Trade Show in Las Vegas from March 22-26, 2016. Early registration ends March 2, 2016.

The NBEA 2016 Convention will provide over 70 exciting and cutting-edge educational sessions, more than 20 technology workshops that will expand specific skills and introduce new technologies, and general session speakers that will educate and inspire. In addition, over 30 sessions will be offered at the Business Education Research Conference, held in conjunction with the NBEA 2016 Convention.

Do not miss this amazing opportunity to enhance your knowledge and skills as a business educator, take part in networking opportunities, and be challenged to return to your classroom ready to educate, empower, and energize the next generation.

Please [click here](#) to access the convention details, including general convention information, session descriptions, professional development seminars, and much more. Both the online and printed convention registration forms can be accessed by [clicking here](#). You can't afford to miss this dynamic convention solely dedicated to the advancement of business education.

The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas will serve as the official headquarters hotel for the NBEA 2016 Annual Convention. Visit <https://aws.passkey.com/g/50649057> to make your online reservations.

Submit by March 15 for 1st-Time ACTE Region V Leadership Conference Attendee Stipends

If the 2016 conference in San Diego will be the first time you've attended a Region V Conference, be sure to apply for one of the stipends that are available.

Up to ten \$500 stipends will be awarded for the 2016 Conference in San Diego and the 2017 Conference in South Dakota.

The stipend will be paid over two years with \$250 paid upon attending each conference. Awards will be made at the conference.

Applications can be found on the Region V website and can be downloaded directly at https://www.acteonline.org/uploadedFiles/Who_We_Are/Regions/1st%20TimerStipend%20for%20Region%20V%202016112315.pdf.

The deadline for submission is March 15 and notifications will be sent out by April 1 if you are receiving the stipend.

Preregistration Now Open for Adobe MAX 2016; Preregister Now to Save \$500

This year's [Adobe MAX 2016](#) conference will take place October 31-November 4 in San Diego. Join the world's top creative minds at MAX. Last year over 7,000 artists and innovators got together to learn, create and hear from speakers like Brandon Stanton, Aaron Draplin and Maira Kalman.

[MAX 2016 passes](#) are now available for a limited-time offer of only \$1095, a savings of \$500 off the full conference pass price of \$1595. There is no financial obligation at this time, just an opportunity to lock in this low price before it's gone.

To preregister please visit max.adobe.com/preregister/ today. For more information about Adobe MAX 2016, please go to max.adobe.com/.

Great Opportunity for Teachers & Schools Interested in Teaching New AP CS Principles Course

The Mobile CS Principles project (Mobile CSP*, www.mobile-csp.org) is accepting applications for its 2016-17 professional development (PD) course.

The PD consists of a four-week summer course (starting June 27) that can be taken either online or in a hybrid format (two weeks online, and two weeks face-to-face), followed by PD support throughout the school year. Availability of the hybrid format will depend on whether there is a supported Mobile CSP site (TBD) in your vicinity.

Accepted teachers will receive a stipend of \$4,000 for successfully completing the PD, plus \$1,000 upon teaching the AP Mobile CSP course during the 2016-17 school year.

The Mobile CSP course takes a mobile approach to computer science. Students learn the principles of computer science through projects focused on building socially useful mobile apps using App Inventor—apps that have meaning to them or their school or community.

The Mobile CSP course is one of the CSP courses that will be endorsed by the College Board for 2016-17. Participating teachers will receive all of the pedagogical materials needed to teach the complete course.

To apply, please visit our www.mobile-csp.org/participate. Apply early, as funds are limited. Please do not hesitate to contact the Mobile CSP Team at mobilecsp.trincoll@gmail.com if you have questions about the project or the professional development.

Thinking of Presenting at ACTE CareerTech VISION 2016 in Vegas? Proposals Due February 29

Are you interested in presenting at the ACTE [CareerTech VISION 2016](#)? The [Association for Career and Technical Education](#) (ACTE) will hold the [CareerTech VISION 2016](#) November 30-December 3 in Las Vegas at the Las Vegas Convention Center.

ACTE is excited to announce that ACTE's theme for the entire year, "I Am CTE", will continue to be on display throughout CareerTech VISION 2016. The goal is to bring together the diverse expertise contained in the career and technical educational field to share and learn from the collective strength and impact our community has on preparing America's workforce.

[ACTE is seeking high-quality proposals](#) that address a full range of issues facing CTE educators, CTE students and the career pathways that support the development of skills and proficiencies.

[Proposals](#) should include "how to" strategies and/or evidence-based research.

You must submit your proposal using our online system at www.careertechvision.com/abstract_submission1.cfm. Emailed, faxed, and mailed proposals will not be accepted. You must register through the website in order to submit your proposal. If you previously submitted a proposal for VISION 2014 or 2015, you may already have an account. If you have forgotten either your username or password, please use the "forgot username or password" link.

All proposals must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. EST, on February 29, 2016.

All proposals are peer-reviewed and are not reviewed by ACTE staff. In an effort to promote new and diverse groups of presenters, reviewers will give strong preference to presenters who submit sessions not previously presented at an ACTE conference. The selection committee will be choosing sessions that feature high-quality Career Technical Education (CTE) programs, with proven track records of success; offer strategies for successful collaboration, implementation and innovation at the classroom, district or system level; and/or provide opportunities for participants to engage in interactive and hands-on learning activities. High-quality proposals that include best practices and "how-to" strategies are of particular interest.

The information gathered during this process will be used to promote the programming at VISION and to prepare the printed program, website, and mobile app. Please be sure that the information you provide is complete, accurate and grammatically correct.

Information required to submit a proposal:

-Presentation Title (10 word maximum; may be edited for publication)

-Presentation Description (Please be specific about what attendees will learn, 50 words maximum; may be edited for publication)

-Presenter(s) full contact information including First and Last Name, Organization/Company/Institution Name – No acronyms, Organization/Company/Institution Address, Phone Number, and Email Address

-Presenter Bio (150 words maximum)

-Presenter headshot for use on the website/app – (Optional) Photo must not be larger than 1024 pixels and must be in RGB color format

-Detailed session information—what are the learning objectives for the session, what are the outcomes, what are the strategies that will be employed in the workshop, etc. (for use on website and review purposes only)

ALL accepted presenters MUST remit a VISION 2016 Speaker Registration fee. The discount Speaker Registration fee is \$295 for ACTE members and \$475 for nonmembers. This fee must be paid by August 31, 2016. Speakers who pay after this date will be required to pay the full prevailing registration rate.

All presenters must supply their own laptop or tablets for their session to present. If using an Apple device or tablet, presenters need to provide the appropriate projector connection (dongle).

Part of effective professional development is providing meaningful presentation materials and online resources that allow the participants to further their learning. It is expected that presenters provide electronic presentation materials, handouts and/ or follow-up materials for our event participants before, during, or after the event. Presenters are expected to develop effective interactive activities to ensure the workshop attendee the best professional development opportunity.

Accepted speakers and co-speakers are responsible for ALL VISION 2016 related expenses, including speaker registration, travel, lodging and meals.

By [submitting a proposal](#) you agree to present at any time during the meeting. Program sessions will be scheduled on Thursday, December 1, Friday, December 2 and Saturday, December 3. Sessions will be 60 minutes in length.

Fun Facts and Trivia

Pringles were created by Alexander Liepa and were first sold in America in 1968; however, they did not become popular the mid-1970's.

Pringles were originally named “Pringles Newfangled Potato Chips.”

The mustachioed fellow on the Pringles can has been there since the brand got its start; his name is Julius Pringle.

Since acquiring Pringles in 2012 from Proctor & Gamble Co., parent company Kellogg's has seen its snack sales grow from \$4.8 billion in 2011 to \$6.5 billion in the 2014 fiscal year with over two-thirds of Pringles sold outside of North America.

While there are about 29 flavors of the snack on shelves here in the United States (not counting special and limited edition runs), the rest of the world has tasted an entirely different spectrum of Pringles including Bangkok Grilled Chicken Wing, Blueberry & Hazelnut, Finger Lickin' Braised Pork, Mayo Potato, and Prawn Cocktail.

Just like Corn Flakes, Pringles can make a terrific breading for chicken and can also used to coat Mahi Mahi and as a topping for rice.

It is believed to be around three or four potatoes in your average Pringles tube.

The inventor of the packaging tube was Frederic J. Baur. He died on 4th March 2008 at the age of 89, and was so proud of his invention that he requested to be cremated, and that part of his ashes were buried in a Pringle can.

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