

## The Wednesday Reader

April 6, 2016

### First Time #CSTA16 Attendee? Apply TODAY For An Oracle Academy Scholarship

Oracle Academy has graciously decided to offer 20 scholarships to first-time conference attendees to the Computer Science Teachers Association's [2016 CSTA Annual Conference](#) in July in San Diego. Oracle supports new ideas to strengthen teaching and learning, and they know that some of the best teaching methods come from fellow educators.

To be eligible for the scholarship, you must fit the following criteria:

- Applicant is a first time K-12 teacher attendee to the CSTA Annual conference
- Applicant has not taken or registered for an Oracle Academy event
- Must apply for the scholarship no later than May 1, 2016

Recipients of a scholarship award will receive a scholarship funded by Oracle Academy to attend the 2016 CSTA Annual Conference, and will cover up to \$1,000 per awardee, to include:

- Conference registration
- Up to 3 nights of lodging at the conference venue or comparable location (if the conference venue is sold out)
- Travel expense support (toward transportation and meals)
- Recipients will receive special recognition as a recipient of an Oracle Academy scholarship at the conference.

After May 1, recipients will be selected by the listed objective criteria, using a pre-determined process. The 20 winners will be notified by May 15, 2016, and will then be given detailed instructions to finalize travel plans. Further rules/obligations outlined on application.

[Apply now](#); the application deadline is May 1, 2016.

### EverFi Provides Brand New *Healthy Relationships Curriculum*

We know how important the middle and early high school years are for your students' relationships and for setting them on the path to adulthood. Like you, we want that to be a positive path, which is why we designed [Healthy Relationships](#) to address the same problem areas we saw in the classroom when we were teachers.

Here are some of the topics covered:

***Communicating Effectively*** - From identifying communication barriers to interpreting subtle social cues, students learn how to better express their thoughts, opinions, and feelings, and to communicate effectively with others.

***Understanding and Managing Emotions*** - Students practice reading body language and facial expressions to interpret others' emotions, and then they learn strategies to control their own emotions--like naming, taking a deep breath, and choosing how to react.

Healthy Relationships is built around the following standards: National Health Education Standards (NHES), CASEL Social and Emotional Learning Competencies, Common Core State Standards (CCSS).

To learn more, contact Mick Karls of EverFi at [mick@everfi.com](mailto:mick@everfi.com) or 406-204-1148. If you'd like to view a recorded webinar, visit [here](#). And, if you'd like access to this *no-cost* course, register [here](#) and search for your school. If you already use EverFi's courses, click on the Request Course button to find *Healthy Relationships*.

### EverFi Provides Digital Literacy and Responsibility Course

Another one of EverFi's no cost courses, *Ignition - Digital Literacy and Responsibility*, combines the power of cutting-edge instructional design, rich media, and simulations to educate teens and empower them with the skill set to leverage technology safely and effectively.

The four-hour curriculum is designed for students in grades 6th-9th and informs students on both “nuts and bolts” of how technology works and an introduction to STEM careers, while also placing them in virtual environments to tackle issues including privacy, security, cyber-bullying, digital relationships, and the viral nature of the web.

To learn more, visit [here](#), or contact Mick Karls of EverFi at [mick@everfi.com](mailto:mick@everfi.com) or 406.204.1148.

### White Sulphur Springs Adult Education Offering Adobe Lightroom Class

Photographers, amateur or pro, who seek the fastest, easiest, most comprehensive way to learn Adobe Photoshop Lightroom CC. The 11 project-based lessons show students step-by-step the key techniques for working in Photoshop Lightroom CC. And a stunning showcase of extraordinary images by working professional photographers provides the perfect inspiration for your next project.

Photoshop Lightroom delivers a complete workflow solution for the digital photographer, from powerful one-click adjustments to a full range of cutting-edge advanced controls. Students learn how to manage large volumes of digital photographs, work in a non-destructive environment to allow for fearless experimentation, and perform sophisticated image processing tasks to easily produce good-looking pictures and polished presentations for both web and print.

The class will be taught by Ali Green, a technology trainer with Berkeley Training, Judge Group Inc., in Philadelphia.

Classes will be held May 11 and 12 from 9 am to 5 pm both days at White Sulphur Springs High School. The class fee is \$150.00. ***Please Pre-Register By April 11; a minimum of six (6) students is needed to run the class.***

If you have any questions about the class or would like to register, you can contact Julie Hanson at 406.547.3351 or [jhanson@whitesulphur.k12.mt.us](mailto:jhanson@whitesulphur.k12.mt.us).

### Teaching Python or Java? Interested in Offering College Credit for Your Students?

Want to offer a Python or Java course that your students can get college credit for? Look into dual credit from Missoula College/U of M.

You teach what you want the way you want at the pace you want. The university courses are one semester long. The dual-credit high school courses are a yearlong so the pace is more suitable to introducing programming to high school students.

The students register and pay UM. They are UM students and receive a UM transcript. The credits are UM credits, transferable any university that take UM credits.

Present offerings in CS are: CSCI 100: Intro to Programming (Python) and CSCI 135: Fundamentals of Computer Science I (Java).

This program is free to the schools. Students pay about \$50 per credit. The one requirement is that the instructor have a Master's degree, but not necessarily in computer science.

Contact [Jordan.Patterson@mso.umt.edu](mailto:Jordan.Patterson@mso.umt.edu) for more information.

### **Want CTE Funds Next Year? Submit CTE Perkins Intent to Apply & State CTE/VoEd Application**

The Office of Public Instruction has again this year combined both the Federal Carl D. Perkins '*Intent to Apply*' AND the State CTE/VoEd Funding application for school districts' convenience. You can apply for one or both funding programs using this one electronic form.

The online link to access and complete the combined Federal and State Funding application is now available and listed below. It is also available on the Secondary CTE web page of the OPI website inside the *Perkins Federal Funding* tab.

Authorized Representatives of Local Education Agencies (LEAs) will use the online link to access and complete the brief electronic form for the 2016-2017 E-Grants cycle. All public high schools and K-12 districts with qualifying Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs are eligible to apply for funding. Elementary districts are not eligible for Perkins or State CTE/VoEd monies.

**Districts will NOT receive a 2016-2017 Perkins allocation unless this electronic form is completed and submitted online** at the OPI on or before the April 25, 2016 deadline. These designations are binding and cannot be changed once allocations have been downloaded into the E-Grants system.

The online link is located at <http://app.keysurvey.com/f/1026384/41f0/>.

The **DEADLINE** for submission of the combined application is **April 25, 2016**.

If you have questions, please contact Christy Hendricks, CTE/Perkins Data Control Specialist, at [chendricks@mt.gov](mailto:chendricks@mt.gov) or by phone at 406.444.9019.

### **Interested in Sharing a Great Project or Lesson? Complete the 2017 WBEA Call for Presentations**

The 2017 [Western Business Education Association](#) Conference will be hosted by the Montana Business Education Association in Bozeman at the Best Western GranTree Inn next year, February 16-20, 2017.

A Call for Presentations is now available for any business educator or other professional interested in sharing information and resources with business educators. The Call for Presentations can be completed online at <http://goo.gl/forms/SgsDnExKgy>. If you have problems accessing the link, please contact Eric Swenson at [eswenson@mt.gov](mailto:eswenson@mt.gov).

The 2017 WBEA Conference will bring together business education professionals at all levels—middle school, high school, college/university—from across the western United States and Canada as well as national- and international-level leaders in business education instruction and research.

The deadline to submit proposals is October 1, 2016; presentation proposals will not be accepted after this date. Please note, all Business Educators who present at the conference are required to formally register for the 2017 WBEA Conference.

If you have any questions regarding proposals, please contact Eric Swenson at [eswenson@mt.gov](mailto:eswenson@mt.gov).

### **Free Curriculum and Instructional Resources Available from Oracle Academy**

[Oracle Academy](#) has tools and resources that will place you on the leading edge of these important initiatives. Become an [Oracle Academy Institutional member today](#)—for FREE.

Oracle Academy offers teachers with free [academic curriculum](#). The professionally developed, academic courseware in Java, Database Design, SQL, and PL/SQL delivers computer science learning for both academic and CTE pathways, and includes lesson plans, student projects, and assessments on a hosted learning management system (LMS).

The Oracle Academy curriculum as includes end-of-pathway exams. Students who complete the relevant Java or database courses are prepared to take the AP CS A exam and Oracle's new [Junior Associate Certification](#) exams in Java or Database. The Junior Associate Certification is designed for students in high school programs and two- and four-year colleges, and universities; provides independent validation of Java programming and database knowledge; and helps when applying for internships and summer and first professional jobs.

[Oracle Academy](#) offers free teacher training. Never taught database, SQL, or Java, or just need a refresher? Oracle Academy offers [educator professional development](#) in a variety of formats to accommodate different schedules and learning styles.

Oracle Academy's mission is to partner with educators to advance computer science education and increase knowledge, skills, innovation and diversity in technology fields. Elevate your classroom practice and bring industry leading software, curriculum and resources into your classroom to start or grow your computer science program. [Join today](#).

For more information about [Oracle Academy](#), please visit [academy.oracle.com/en/oa-web-overview.html](http://academy.oracle.com/en/oa-web-overview.html).

### **Helena High Mock Trial Team Seeks to Expand the Number of Montana Teams**

Earlier this month, the Helena High School's Mock Trial Team competed in Boise, Idaho, in the Idaho State Bar's Mock Trial Competition. Why did they compete in the Idaho competition? . . . Helena High is the only Mock Trial Team in Montana.

Helena High School business teacher Kacey Askin teaches the law and justice classes at HHS and is the teams coach. The students from HHS have been working for months preparing for the competition, but because there are no other teams in the state they are forced to go out of state to compete.

Details regarding the Mock Trial Competition and to read the story of the HHS team, please visit [www.kxih.com/story/31478104/helena-high-school-mock-trial-team-will-compete-in-idaho-state-competition](http://www.kxih.com/story/31478104/helena-high-school-mock-trial-team-will-compete-in-idaho-state-competition). Details about the Idaho competition can be viewed at [https://isb.idaho.gov/ilf/lre/mock\\_trial.html](https://isb.idaho.gov/ilf/lre/mock_trial.html).

If at least one more team within Montana, then Montana could qualify one team for the National Mock Trial Competition. The 2016 national competition will be held May 12-14 in Boise. The 2017 National Mock Trial Competition is scheduled for May 11-13 in Hartford, Connecticut.

If you are interested in learning more about the mock trial competition, please visit [www.nationalmocktrial.org](http://www.nationalmocktrial.org) or contact Kacey directly, his email is [kaskin@helenaschools.org](mailto:kaskin@helenaschools.org).

The Helena High School team did place fourth in the Idaho competition. Congratulations!!

### **Advanced Placement® Workshop Seeks to Boost State's Computer Science Education Levels**

Montana schools have a golden opportunity to give students a leg up in the changing job markets of our times. Teachers can participate in a four-day workshop to gain abilities and knowledge to teach [AP® Computer Science June 27–30 in Bozeman](#).

Although the workshop is designed to prepare teachers to offer an AP® Computer Science course in a school, the strategies and skills presented will be helpful for teachers of all computer applications or computer programming courses.

Instructor for the workshop is Cody Henrichsen, who has been teaching AP® Computer Science for 16 years and has been selected by the College Board for this work. Henrichsen says that computer science is difficult to learn on your own and needs to be accessible to all students. He expects that this subject matter will be new for many workshop participants and has developed the sessions to be practical and enjoyable.

According to Henrichsen, up to eight of the top 20 jobs in the coming years will require the use of computer science to analyze data, build models, and access the inaccessible.

Currently, out of 171 public high schools in the state, 45 report offering no courses in computer applications. Only eight report a course in computer programming and only 20 report having more than one teacher offering computer-related courses, based on Montana school reports in the TEAMS data system.

A recent Gallup study reports that nationally, 25% of America's students have no access to a computer science class or club at school, but parents across all demographic categories overwhelmingly support a requirement for students to learn computer science.

In a radio address earlier this year, President Obama called for congress to support Computer Science for All, an initiative rooted in preparing young people to successfully navigate the landscape of jobs and work in the twenty-first century.

“In the new economy, computer science isn't an optional skill – it's a basic skill, right along with the three Rs. Nine out of 10 parents want it taught at their children's schools,” the President said.

In recent months both the National Science Foundation and Microsoft have committed major funding for multi-year initiatives to support and increase computer science in the U.S. and partnered with organizations including Code.org and Teach for America.

Registration for the AP® Computer Science workshop is open. [Learn more, here.](#)

Read more about the Gallup study and the Computer Science for All initiative at

[http://www.gallup.com/opinion/gallup/184751/students-lack-access-computer-science-learning.aspx?g\\_source=lack access computer science learning&g\\_medium=search&g\\_campaign=tiles](http://www.gallup.com/opinion/gallup/184751/students-lack-access-computer-science-learning.aspx?g_source=lack+access+computer+science+learning&g_medium=search&g_campaign=tiles)

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/tech/2015/09/16/microsoft-70-million-investment-computer-science-underrepresented-women-minorities-satya-nadella-brad-smith-education/32519869/>

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2016/02/160202143745.htm>

### **ACTE CareerTech Vision 2016 in Las Vegas, Nov 30-Dec 3 – Registration is Now Open**

Early Bird registration for the [Association for Career & Technical Education's](#) (ACTE) [2016 CareerTech Vision](#) conference is now open. The [2016 ACTE CareerTech Vision](#) conference will be held in Las Vegas, November 30-December 3, at the Las Vegas Convention Center.

VISION is your EVENT, your EXPERIENCE and your OPPORTUNITY to thrive. Join us for the premier annual gathering of CTE professionals and choose from an array of professional development:

- Inspiring keynote speakers
- Hundreds of dynamic and interactive CTE sessions
- A comprehensive CareerTech Expo
- A larger-than-ever Career Pavilion
- The elegant ACTE Awards Banquet
- Numerous Wednesday workshops and tours

The Early Bird registration rate is \$395 for ACTE members. After July 1, the member rate increases to \$445 and registrations after October 28 will be charged the late rate of \$525.

### **Highlights for 2016 VISION include**

Concurrent CTE Sessions: VISION 2016's educational agenda will give you the opportunity to tailor a professional development experience that is just for right for you! You will hear the latest projections on CTE from education experts and industry leaders and the most relevant topics from your peers.

CareerTech Expo: The vibrant gathering place for CTE professionals, CareerTech Expo features 200+ companies offering the latest CTE products and services, exhibitor workshops, and a wealth of networking opportunities.

Career Pavilion: Bigger and better than ever, VISION's Career Pavilion features multiple employment sectors with representatives showcasing career opportunities and resources to help you get your students excited about their future career path.

NEW! STEM is CTE Symposium: This special VISION event will help you inspire our nation's students and young women, who are still underrepresented in STEM fields, forge career paths in STEM through engaging CTE programming.

Funding Strategies: VISION 2016 will offer a series of sessions covering essential funding strategies, the grant writing process and business collaborations to fuel your CTE programs.

The Many Faces of CTE: Celebrate and share your professional contributions with thousands of CTE professionals like you, transforming students' lives every single day, at VISION 2016.

ACTE Awards Banquet: Join the most distinguished CTE professionals, programs and organizations in an evening of elegance and ceremony at ACTE's Awards Banquet on Wednesday, November 30 at VISION 2016.

The host hotel is the Westgate Las Vegas Resort & Casino (the former Las Vegas Hilton) and is connected to the convention center. The 2016 Vision rate is \$89.00 plus tax. For complete lodging information please visit [www.careertechvision.com/travel.cfm](http://www.careertechvision.com/travel.cfm).

Mark your calendars now for the 2017 and 2018 ACTE CareerTech Visions.

-2017: December 6-9, Nashville

-2018: November 28-December 1, San Antonio

### **2016 Montana Institute on Educational Technology Registration Now Open**

The [2016 Montana Institute on Educational Technology](#) (MIET) will be held June 14 and 15 at Great Falls College MSU.

Registration is now open and details for 2016 MIET can be found at [mietttechdays.weebly.com](http://mietttechdays.weebly.com). Early registration is \$110 for both days and includes lunch if completed by May 20.

Following the 2016 MIET, on June 16 a free [Microsoft Innovative Educator \(MIE\) Teacher Academy](#) training will be held, also Great Falls College. This Microsoft Innovative Educator (MIE) Teacher Academy is designed for the K-12 classroom educator who wants to learn more about Microsoft's best tools and resources for classroom learning in a one-day professional learning experience. Bring your own Windows 8.1 or 10 device to learn how to most effectively use the latest version of Windows, including basic navigation and Windows Apps. Discover Office Mix, Sway, and OneNote, including how digital notebooks can be created and used as a productivity tool for educators and students. This training will also cover how easy it is to use cloud-based tools in Office 365 for education and Skype in the Classroom, including how to take advantage of storage on OneDrive, and how to work collaboratively with others all through the cloud.

For complete details and registration for both the 2016 MIET and the Microsoft Innovative Educator (MIE) Teacher Academy, please visit [mietttechdays.weebly.com](http://mietttechdays.weebly.com).

## **Youth Serve Montana Scholarships: 100 Awards for \$1,000 for Volunteering 100+ Hours**

The Youth Serve Montana Scholarship was created to promote volunteerism among high school students, encourage young leaders to further their learning, and provide tuition assistance for Montana students who wish to attend college in-state. Selected students receive a **\$1,000** scholarship toward their college tuition.

Scholarship funds have been made available through support from [Montana Campus Compact](#), a network of Montana campuses committed to community service; [Student Assistance Foundation](#), a nonprofit dedicated to helping students pursue and fund post-secondary education; and the [Governor's Office of Community Service](#), a state agency tasked with expanding and promoting service in Montana. The Governor's Office of Community Service administers the scholarships.

### 2016 Scholarship Materials:

--[2016 Youth Serve Montana Scholarship Application](#)

--[FAQ](#) (read before applying)

--[Scholarship Poster](#)

*\*to access a PDF version of the application, please email [serve@mt.gov](mailto:serve@mt.gov)*

### 2016 Scholarship Guidelines:

--Applicant must have completed 100 hours of volunteer service within a 12-month period. 12-months is defined as the period 12 months prior to the date of application.

--Service that is compensated may not be used for this application's service hours.

--Scholarship funds must be used for the 2016-2017 academic year at a Montana Campus Compact member institution.

--Students must demonstrate financial need by documenting an active FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) application.

--Applications are due to the Governor's Office of Community Service by April 15, 2016.

### Questions?

Contact the Governor's Office of Community Service at 406-444-9077 or email [serve@mt.gov](mailto:serve@mt.gov).

## **2015-2016 CTE Spring Data Collection – Time to Identify CTE Concentrators for Perkins Funding**

The Career and Technical Education (CTE) Spring Data Collection begins March 1, 2016 and ends April 30, 2016. This AIM collection asks schools to identify all 12th grade high school students who were enrolled at any point during the current 2015-2016 school year who meet the definition of a CTE Concentrator.

CTE Concentrators are 12th graders who have earned three (3) or more credits in any CTE program in any combination during their years of high school. Currently, enrolled CTE courses count towards credits earned. CTE Concentrators must have the 'CTE Concentrator' box checked and an 'Area of Concentration' entered into the AIM/Infinite Campus data system.

If the student has a child or shares the parenting of a child, the 'Single Parent' box should also be marked. High schools who receive funding from the Carl D. Perkins federal grant program must complete this CTE Spring Data Collection.

Instructions for completing the CTE Spring Data Collection can be found on the AIM webpage as well as inside the `Data Collections` tab on the Secondary CTE webpage located at <http://www.opi.mt.gov/pub/AIM/Collections/CareerTechnicalEducation/SpringCTECollectionGuide.pdf>

Questions regarding this data collection should be directed to the AIM Helpdesk at 1-877-424-6681 or send an email to: [opiainhelp@mt.gov](mailto:opiainhelp@mt.gov). Questions regarding CTE programs and/or the Carl D. Perkins federal grant program should be directed to Christy Hendricks at 406-444-9019 or email her at: [chendricks@mt.gov](mailto:chendricks@mt.gov).

### **Fun Facts and Trivia**

William Howard Taft, the 27th president of the U.S., began the tradition of throwing out the ceremonial first pitch at a major league baseball game in 1910.

The oldest professional baseball team, the Cincinnati Red Stockings (now the Reds), was founded in 1869.

There are 108 stitches on each MLB ball.

During WWII, the US Army developed a grenade that was about the same size and shape as a regular baseball making it easy to use for the American soldiers who had grown up playing baseball.

Jim Abbott, who was born with just one hand, had 11-year career as a pitcher in MLB. The highlight of his career was when he pitched a 'no hitter' in 1993.

The average life span of a major league baseball is 5-7 pitches.

The baseball tradition of spring training came about because in 1885 the Chicago White Stockings went to Hot Springs in Arkansas to prepare for the new season.

MLB umpires are required by rule to wear only black underwear, in case they split their pants.

All baseballs used in MLB games are rubbed with a very specific mud. Only one person knows the location of the mud, and he sells it to MLB every season.

In 2011, Florida Marlins set the record for lowest attendance at a MLB game with just 347 fans due to change in venues fearing Hurricane Irene.

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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*"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*