

## The Wednesday Reader

May 18, 2016

*Today is the last Wednesday Reader for the 2015-2016 school year. Thank you to all who submitted information to share this year. The first edition of the edition of the Wednesday Reader for the 2016-2017 school year will be Wednesday, August 31, 2016. Enjoy your summer.*

### **June 24 is Deadline to Register for the FREE Business Education Summer Update Workshops**

Looking for a way to keep cool during those hot August days or how about taking a summer road trip to spend some time with friends and colleagues? Whatever you may be planning for your summer, be sure to mark your calendars for the 2016 Montana Business Education Summer Update Workshops.

Three (3) regional workshops will again be offered for the Montana business educators. This year's workshops will focus on the Adobe Creative Suite and [EverFi's](#) STEM and financial literacy curriculum.

Workshops will be held

- Wednesday, August 3 at Skyview High School in Billings;
- Friday, August 5 at Simms High School in Simms; and
- Tuesday, August 9 at Sentinel High School in Missoula.

Workshops will be facilitated by Montana Business Education Specialist Eric Swenson with Adobe instruction provided by Bertha Kirschten and Julie O'Dell (Billings), Jennifer Rohrer (Simms) and Cindy Schultz (Missoula) and [EverFi](#) training under the direction of Mick Karls.

Below is the schedule for each of the three locations: August 3, Billings at Skyview High School; August 5, Simms High School; and August 9, Missoula at Sentinel High School.

- 8:30-9 am: Registration
- 9-9:30 am: Welcome & Introductions
- 9:30-10:30 am: Adobe Training
- 10:30-10:45 am: Break
- 10:45-Noon: Adobe Training, continued
- Noon-1 pm: Lunch (On your own)
- 1-1:30 pm: Business Education Curriculum Update
- 1:30-2:30 pm: EverFi STEM Curriculum Training
- 2:30-2:45 pm: Break
- 2:45-3:45 pm: EverFi Financial Literacy Training
- 3:45-4 pm: Wrap Up & Closing

Registration can be completed at <http://goo.gl/forms/lxVZioZ9ZD>. If you have problems accessing the link via the Google "shorthand" URL, here is the longhand version of link, [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1S3w3bpEQ6W2s-0fM\\_7bE-dd1tIU8\\_UFozhdNhcjsKTM/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1S3w3bpEQ6W2s-0fM_7bE-dd1tIU8_UFozhdNhcjsKTM/viewform).

Please complete registration by Friday, June 24. A registration confirmation will be sent after your registration has been processed.

These workshop will be offered free of charge with up to six (6) OPI Renewal Units available. Any travel and lodging expenses you may incur to attend can be paid for by either Perkins and/or State CTE/VoEd funds.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information. See you in August.

### **Preliminary Perkins Allocations for 2016-2017 are Now Available for Grant & Budget Planning**

The 2016-2017 Perkins Preliminary Allocations are now available to view. With the school year about to close we wanted to give you the opportunity to view your Perkins Preliminary Allocations before the end of the year so you can begin budgeting for the next school year.

Here is the link to view the 2016-2017 Perkins Preliminary Allocations—  
[http://www.opi.mt.gov/pdf/CTE/16\\_17VoEdPerkinsPrelimAlloc.pdf](http://www.opi.mt.gov/pdf/CTE/16_17VoEdPerkinsPrelimAlloc.pdf)

If you have any questions about the allocation amounts, please contact Christy Hendricks, CTE/Perkins Accountability Specialist at 406.444.9019 or email her at [chendricks@mt.gov](mailto:chendricks@mt.gov).

### **Remember to Budget Your 2016-2017 Perkins for WBEA 2017 in Bozeman**

Plan to attend the WBEA 2017 conference in Bozeman, February 17-19, 2017. Use your Perkins funds to pay for this great professional development opportunity.

Conference registration is \$200 and the nightly rate at the Bozeman GranTree is \$92 + tax.

At WBEA you have the opportunity to attend over 50 different workshops, network with business teachers from a 12-state region, and participate in honoring great business educators.

Contact Janie McFarland at [janiehmcfarland@yahoo.com](mailto:janiehmcfarland@yahoo.com) or Elaine Stedman at [elaine@middrivers.com](mailto:elaine@middrivers.com) if you have any questions. If you are interested in presenting, please complete the Call for Presentations at <http://goo.gl/forms/OBGOPxK06QaJqerF3>.

We hope to see all of Montana's business teachers in Bozeman next February.

### **Early Registration for 2016 Montana Institute on Educational Technology Ends Friday, May 20**

The [2016 Montana Institute on Educational Technology](http://www.miet.org) (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 [miettechdays.weebly.com](http://miettechdays.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](http://www.microsoft.com/education/innovative-educator) 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 [miettechdays.weebly.com](http://miettechdays.weebly.com).

### **New Computer Science Curriculum Packages from Microsoft**

Microsoft has just published several free computer science curriculum packages to help schools, youth organizations and community groups add computer science to their programs. To access the new curriculum packages, go to <http://aka.ms/New-Lex-CS>.

The curriculum packages include everything needed to deliver brief but complete computer science learning experiences in classrooms, camps, clubs, libraries, etc.

The curriculum packages

- serve instructors and students ages 8 and up, for learning in classrooms, libraries, camps, or clubs;
- vary in length from 1 to 20 hours of instruction;
- include all necessary instructor and student resources;
- Are designed for easy uptake by instructors with little or no computer science background, addressing a primary challenge faced by most schools, youth and community organizations; and
- extend the learning from popular direct-to-student computer science tutorials from Microsoft.

The curriculum packages connect with complete Microsoft courseware for computer science, such as [Creative Coding through Games and Apps](#), providing pathways for students to explore computer science and then continue to pursue college and career readiness in technical fields.

### **Save the Date – Jump\$tart Coalition National Educator Conference**

Plan on attending the ONLY national educator conference devoted to personal finance in the classroom.

The [2016 Jump\\$tart Coalition National Educator Conference](#) will take place November 5-7 at the Intercontinental Dallas Hotel.

The [Jump\\$tart Coalition](#) ([jumpstart.org](http://jumpstart.org)) is proud to have the only conference dedicated to personal finance teachers. Approximately 300 teachers gather each year for workshops, resources from the exhibit hall, national speakers and networking with like-minded professionals. And more.

Registration for Classroom Teachers is \$425. The price includes two (2) nights' lodging, conference meals and more. Attendees provide their own transportation. Registration fee for other educators is \$575 and will open approximately 30 days after classroom teacher registration. Please note, hotel reservations will be made once you register.

Watch for early bird registration information this summer at [jumpstart.org/2016-jump\\$tart-national-educator-conference.html](http://jumpstart.org/2016-jump$tart-national-educator-conference.html). Conference registration officially opens September 6.

### **CSTA Launches Cybersecurity Professional Development Program for Teachers**

The [Computer Science Teachers Association](#) (CSTA) has launched the [Cyber Teacher Certificate](#) professional development program designed to train teachers in cybersecurity education.

According to a statistical research survey commissioned by [Raytheon](#), approximately one in four millennials is interested in a career in cybersecurity. However, the survey also "revealed inadequate technology education, which inhibits young adults from getting interested in and pursuing careers in computer science, including cybersecurity."

The CSTA hopes to increase opportunities for cybersecurity education in high schools with the introduction of its new Cyber Teacher Certificate. The online program offers eight hours of continuing education units (CEUs), including a six-hour online adaptive learning course in the "Fundamentals of Cyber."

The CSTA is running the program in collaboration with [LifeJourney](#), a cloud-based platform for STEM and cybersecurity career simulation and exploration. The Cyber Teacher Certificate is designed to work in tandem with LifeJourney's [NSA Day of Cyber](#), an online, interactive, self-guided, fully automated cybersecurity mentorship experience for teachers to run with students in the classroom, according to information on LifeJourney's site.

"Teachers are the most influential element in shaping and guiding a student's educational path," said Mark Nelson, executive director of the CSTA, in a news release. "That is why the Cyber Teacher Certificate program will be a force multiplier for creating the cyber generation. With this program we're letting teachers tap into students' rising interest in cybersecurity and increasing their future opportunities for high-paying and in-demand cyber careers."

Further information about the Cyber Teacher Certificate program can be found on [LifeJourney's](#) site.

### **Grab Your Shades and Take a Trip is AICPA**

The AICPA ([www.startheregoplaces.com](http://www.startheregoplaces.com)) is on the edge of their seats about the upcoming virtual field trip with Mark Astrinos. He's a Financial Planner and Investment Advisor for Vista Wealth Management in the San Francisco Bay Area. AICPA loves his uncanny ability to help people make sense of complicated financial topics. It's a skill his clients appreciate and you and your class will, too!

Here are several topics Mark will cover:

- What it's like to be a wealth advisor
- How he became interested in accounting
- What he loves about his job
- What challenges him about his job
- Why he's so passionate about helping people
- What he has to say to future CPAs

Mark will not be the only one talking though. During the presentation, your students will be invited to ask questions. He's really excited to share his experiences with the next generation of CPAs, so take advantage of this great opportunity to pick his brain.

Register your class for the trip to meet Mark at **1pm EST on May 23rd**.

Are you not able to join this virtual field trip? This and other [virtual field trips](#) will be archived so you can watch them whenever you want.

To register, visit <http://www.startheregoplaces.com/students/games-tools/virtual-field-trips/current-destination/>.

### **Banzai: Free Materials for Teaching Real-World Financial Literacy**

Banzai's (<https://teachbanzai.com>) award winning curriculum is used by over 20,000 teachers nationwide to teach their students to be better stewards of their money. Banzai partners with local sponsors to provide this high quality program for teachers and students, at no cost.

One of the hardest parts about teaching is connecting the classroom to the real world. Printed Life Scenario booklets work in conjunction with the online software to provide actual real-life adult financial dilemmas for students to work through. The first day a student uses Banzai they have to begin thinking critically, decisively and analytically. The Banzai curriculum includes four steps the students must complete.

#### 1. Pre-Test

Gage students initial level of understanding.

#### 2. Life Scenarios

Students work through story problems that introduce the curriculum. The teacher's edition provides educators with a lesson plan to help students understand the various financial responsibilities and costs they'll face as an adult.

#### 3. The Game

Students enter a real life simulation where they exercise what they have learned and make various tradeoffs and decisions in order to reach their end goal of saving \$2,000 for college.

#### 4. Post-Test

Measures how much students learned throughout the course.

Now more than ever, it's important for students to learn early how to handle their money, or pretty soon it will start handling them! If students learn fiscal responsibility in school, they will be prepared when the time comes to make important financial decisions on their own.

Local banks and credit unions pay for the materials for teachers to use in their classroom. They offer time, money, industry experience, classroom presentations, and a variety of additional resources to help educate a financially responsible generation.

Banzai helps teachers do what they are already doing, even better. As an added benefit of the program, the topics Banzai covers fulfill many state-mandated requirements for personal finance and financial literacy. Take a look at what curriculum requirements Banzai fulfills for your state here (<https://teachbanzai.com/teachers/curriculum>).

Benefits of Banzai include

- Fun and interactive learning
- Free resource for teachers
- Incorporates technology with learning
- Classroom presentations

- Teachers have control over how to use Banzai
- Grade an entire class in an instant
- Access the Banzai program from anywhere at anytime
- Aligns with state curriculum

Additional Information can be found at

- [Life Scenarios Student Booklet \(PDF version\)](#) A printed booklet supplements the software program
- Samples of Banzai in the news: [pr.teachbanzai.com](http://pr.teachbanzai.com)

For more information about Banzai, please contact Rachel Yentes at 801.210.3016 or [rachel.yentes@teachbanzai.com](mailto:rachel.yentes@teachbanzai.com).

### **Teaching Financial Literacy Materials from the ABA Foundation**

Headquartered in Washington, D.C., the American Bankers Association is the voice of the nation's \$15 trillion banking industry, which is composed of small, regional and large banks that together employ more than 2 million people, safeguard \$11 trillion in deposits and extend more than \$8 trillion in loans. Learn more at [aba.com](http://aba.com).

Through its leadership, partnerships and national programs, ABA's Community Engagement Foundation (dba ABA Foundation), a 501(c)3 subsidiary of the American Bankers Association, has been helping banks improve their communities through financial education since 1925. ABA Foundation's financial education programs engage banks of all sizes and charters, from large multinational and regional banks to single-branch community banks.

[Teach Children to Save](#) (TCTS) is a national campaign that raises awareness about the importance of developing a savings habit, which is the foundation for a strong financial future. Each April, and throughout the year, bankers nationwide employ real-world knowledge and professional expertise in classrooms, youth centers, and after-school programs. The goal: help young people gain a better understanding of saving, spending wisely and the power of choices. Today, in honor of Teach Children to Save Day, bankers across the nation are instilling student saving skills through financial education presentations.

Since Teach Children to Save Day began in 1997, 175,252 banker volunteers have conducted 194,814 TCTS presentations and reached more than 7.3 million students with money lessons children will use for a lifetime.

ABA Foundation's 20th annual Teach Children to Save Day 2017 will be on Friday, April 28. Contact your local banker to bring financial education lessons to your classroom or community group.

Now in its 14th year, [Get Smart About Credit](#) (GSAC) is a national campaign that engages more than 4,000 bankers annually to help teens and young adults learn how to use credit responsibly. Free lessons cover protecting your identity, knowing your score, paying for college and a new unit on "Managing Your Money" to help young people make an informed decision about creating and following a budget. Over the life of this program 27,824 bankers made 52,000 presentations to almost 1.5 million young people. Held annually on the third Thursday in October, the next Get Smart About Credit event takes place October 20.

[Lights, Camera, Save!](#) is a video competition encouraging middle school and high school students age 13-18 to use the power of video to communicate to their peers the value of saving, using money wisely and paying for college. [Lights, Camera, Save!](#) videos provide unique financial “edutainment” infused with the vision and creativity of youth. Banks host the local level of this contest and select a winner to compete at the national level for prizes worth up to \$5,000. View 2015-2016 national winners’ and finalists’ videos, as well as videos from previous years, on ABA’s [YouTube channel](#) and plan to join us for the 2016-2017 contest this fall.

Educators and parents seeking creative opportunities for students, review the [Lights, Camera, Save!](#) contest and encourage teens to enter. Financial literacy practitioners and families looking for creative content, share these peer-to-peer videos with teens and young adults.

### **[Survey to Explore Interest in Hospitality & Tourism Curriculum for High School CTE Programs](#)**

Recently, the topic of Hospitality & Tourism courses and curriculum for high school programs in Montana has been the subject of many conversations at the state and post-secondary level for many reasons. Below, you will find a request to complete a brief survey on this topic.

The intent of this survey is to explore the potential value in expanding hospitality and tourism focused curriculum offered during high school. Potential goals are to both establish a career path for students to post-secondary options being expanded in Montana and continue to create a qualified hospitality and tourism workforce. The survey is a collaboration between the Montana Office of Tourism, Flathead Valley Community College and the Montana Office of Public Instruction. ***Click here to complete the survey:*** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/39N9YFF>.

Why is this information important? Tourism is Montana’s 2nd largest industry. In the past year, Missoula College started a one year certificate program for Hospitality Management. This next year, Gallatin College is starting a Culinary Arts program (this makes the third college to offer this degree in Montana along with Missoula College and Flathead Valley Community College). Gallatin College in conjunction with Montana State University may also start a four-year degree in Hospitality & Tourism, the first option in Montana for a bachelor’s degree in this area of study. The post-secondary institutions are expanding to meet the workforce needs. And, this is an opportunity for our high schools to get involved and help to feed the tourism pipeline with Montana students. High school offers a great place to expose students to these education and career opportunities. This will be part of our future Big Sky Pathways work.

Megan Vincent, the Family & Consumer Sciences Education Specialist has been working with all of the post-secondary institutions mentioned above as well as with the Montana Office of Tourism and Jodi Smith with Montana Superhost to determine how we (Montana’s CTE programs) can play a role in this expansion. She has made a request to gather your feedback to continue our planning efforts since the Hospitality & Tourism curriculum is also taught in Business & Marketing Education.

Please complete this survey at your convenience; your input and feedback is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Megan at [mvincent2@mt.gov](mailto:mvincent2@mt.gov).

## **MSU 2016 Summer Session for Computer Science in the Classroom: An Introduction to Computational Thinking**

During the Montana State University summer session, MSU computer science professor Dr. John Paxton will again be offering CSCI 591 Computer Science in the Classroom: An Introduction to Computational Thinking on the Bozeman campus June 13-17.

CSCI 591 examines the computing field and how it impacts the human condition. Exciting ideas and influential people are introduced. A gentle introduction to computational thinking using the Python programming language is provided. The course also introduces participants to robotic platforms.

This course parallels Dr. Paxton's [CSCI 107 Joy and Beauty of Computing](#).

For more information about the course, summer session enrollment, and course fees please visit <http://www.montana.edu/summer/>.

## **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).

## **Fun Facts and Trivia**

Life Savers were created by Cleveland, Ohio, candy maker Clarence Crane in 1912 as a candy that would not melt in the summertime.

Life Savers originally came in one flavor, Pep-O-Mint.

The design of Crane's Peppermint Life Savers, as they were first called, made them resemble the preservers just coming into use on ships and distinguished them from the square mints from Europe available at the time.

In 1918, Wint-O-Green mints were introduced, and 1935 saw the introduction of the five-flavor roll with orange, pineapple, cherry, lemon, and lime.

Life Savers was the first candy in America to be wrapped in tinfoil to keep them fresh.

The original slogan for Life Savers was "*For that stormy breath*".

The top-selling Life Savers flavors, in order of preference, are Orange, Pineapple, Cherry, Lemon and Lime, Wint-O-Green, Pep-O-Mint and Butter Rum

Approximately 548 million rolls of Lifesavers candy are produced each year.

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*