

## The Wednesday Reader

May 3, 2017

*Please note: There will not be a Wednesday Reader next week, May 10 as I will be attending the BPA National Leadership Conference. The last Wednesday Reader for the 2016-2017 school year will be May 17*

### Register Today for the Business Education Summer Update Workshop & Credit from MSUB

This summer, while enjoying the calms and the wilds of Montana this summer, plan to take a day for some “Hands on” exploring of the STEM branch of Business Education. If you are looking for a little summer adventure, *and a college credit*, mark your calendars for the 2017 Montana Business Education Summer Update Workshops.

Three (3) regional workshops will offered across the state for Montana’s Business Education Professionals. The 2017 Summer Update Workshops topics will include the financial education program Hands on Banking®, getting “plugged into” activities for integrating Computer Science principals, and Cyber Teacher Certification.

One (1) graduate-level continuing education/professional development credit from Montana State University Billings will also be available to workshop participants for \$99 who complete additional requirements.

Workshops will be held

- Monday, July 31 at Glacier High School in Kalispell;
- Wednesday, August 2 at Skyview High School in Billings; and
- Friday, August 4 at Capital High School in Helena.

Workshops will be facilitated by Montana Business Education Specialist Eric Swenson. Attendees will gain hands-on experience with the free, fun, and engaging financial education program from Wells Fargo Hands on Banking®; participate in and receive instructional resources for implementing computer science principals using engaging games and puzzles that use cards, string, crayons from CS Unplugged; and begin the journey to earn Cyber Teacher Certification via LifeJourney’s National Security Administration Day of Cyber.

In addition to all the information and fun activities, Summer Update Workshop participants will receive Hands on Banking® curriculum materials for teens (grades 6-8), young adults (ages 15-21), and Entrepreneurship (including starting, managing, & growing a business); the complete CS Unplugged collection of learning activities; and have the opportunity to become a certified Cyber Teacher.

Below is the schedule for each of the three locations: July 31, Kalispell at Glacier High School; August 2, Billings at Skyview High School; and August 4, Helena at Capital High School.

- 8:30-9 am: Registration
- 9-9:30 am: Welcome & Introductions
- 9:30-10:30 am: Hands on Banking®
- 10:30-10:45 am: Break
- 10:45-Noon: CS Unplugged
- Noon-1 pm: Lunch (On your own)
- 1-1:30 pm: Business Education Curriculum Update
- 1:30-2:30 pm: Cybersecurity Instructional Resources & Cyber Teacher Certification

2:30-2:45 pm: Break  
2:45-3:45 pm: Cyber Teacher Certification, cont.  
3:45-4 pm: Wrap Up & Closing

Come for the day and leave with some fresh AIR—*Activities, Instructional Materials, and Resources*—to start out the new school year.

Registration can be completed at <https://goo.gl/forms/XVUTzqwKFOfMFiaq2>. 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/e/1FAIpQLScYtFK0u03RrUfVJoCOxxLyrtdTJLrAQki0twD1iU5SfEg6IA/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScYtFK0u03RrUfVJoCOxxLyrtdTJLrAQki0twD1iU5SfEg6IA/viewform?usp=sf_link).

***Please complete registration by Friday, June 23.*** 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. Participants who complete the Cyber Teacher Certification program and submit a copy of their earned certificate will be eligible to receive six (6) additional OPI Renewal Units. Proof of an earned Certificate of Completion must be submitted by Friday, August 18, 2017 to receive the additional six (6) units.

*Participation in one of the 2017 Summer Update workshops is required in order to earn the six (6) OPI renewal units through this offer to receive renewal units for the completion of the Cyber Teacher Certification.*

If you want to earn a graduate-level continuing education/professional development credit, Montana State University Billings is proving one (1) credit for \$99. Summer Update participants who want to earn the credit will need to

- attend the workshop for the full day at one of the three locations,
- complete the online Cyber Teacher Certification training and submit a copy of the earned certificate,
- and a develop and submit a lesson plan with associated instructional materials utilizing any of the information and materials gained from the workshop.

To register with MSU Billings for the credit and to submit payment for the \$99 fee please go to <https://extendedcampus.msubillings.edu/wconnect/CourseStatus.awp?&course=E181PDMBES1&Publish=ANYWAY>. The credit is listed under the course title *Montana Business Education Summer Update Workshop*, EDCI 589-450.

Summer Update participants can earn either OPI Renewal Units or College Credit, but not both.

Any travel and lodging expenses you may incur to attend can be paid for by either Perkins and/or State CTE/VoEd funds. Please note: Perkins funds cannot be used to pay for the credit.

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

## Registration Now Open for ACTE's 2017 CareerTech VISION in Nashville

Spring weather may have just started, but now is the time to start thinking about attending the Association for Career & Technical Education's ([acteonline.org](http://acteonline.org)) [2017 CareerTech VISION conference in Nashville, December 6-9](#).

Early-Bird Registration is now open and is available through July 14 at \$395.00 for Montana ACTE/ACTE members.

Complete conference details—including links to registration, conference agenda, and travel and hotel info—can be found at [www.careertechvision.com](http://www.careertechvision.com).

## Joy and Beauty of Computing Courses Offered at MSU-Bozeman this Summer!

The Gianforte School of Computing is pleased to offer TWO 2-credit summer MSSE courses for Montana teachers, *Computer Science in the Classroom: Computational Thinking for Teachers*, a.k.a. *Joy and Beauty of Computing* and *Computer Science in the Classroom: Joy and Beauty of Data*.

*Joy and Beauty of Computing (JBC)* –

Teachers not able to enroll in the *Joy and Beauty of Computing* course for Montana teachers at the University of Montana, June 12-16 have the option to enroll in the course at MSU-Bozeman, **June 13-17**. Due to the popularity of the course, MSU-Bozeman will offer the course to teachers who were not able to enroll at UM or are unable to travel to Missoula. Stipends are available for teachers.

*Joy and Beauty of DATA (JBD)* –

Montana State University (MSU) will offer a new Master of Science in Science Education (MSSE) course for Montana teachers, “Computer Science in the Classroom: Joy and Beauty of Data,” **July 17-21, 2017** on MSU's campus in Bozeman.

The JBD is a 2-credit course and is intended for 7-12 grade teachers who want to learn how to incorporate computational ideas in the classroom. In addition, teachers who take the course will be introduced to the broad area of data science and will extend their knowledge of the Python programming language. High school teachers who complete the course can potentially teach CSCI 1xx, The Joy and Beauty of Data, as a dual enrollment course.

The course builds upon the pre-requisite course, “Joy and Beauty of Computing,” previously offered at MSU (2014-2016) and offered this summer at the UM and MSU-Bozeman.

The course will be taught by Dr. John Paxton, Director, Gianforte School of Computing, Montana State University.

Stipends for Montana teachers is available for both courses. For more information and how to apply, please contact Diana Paterson, MSSE Associate Director, 406.994.5679 or [msse@montana.edu](mailto:msse@montana.edu).

## Check out the MCEE Economics Seminar Schedule & Register by Friday, May 5

Want to improve your economics teaching? Learn with other learn with other Montana teachers from the faculty at Montana State University with this no cost course.

Registration is now open for the 2017 edition of the [Montana Council on Economic Education](#)-sponsored *Economics Seminar for Teachers*. The [2017 Economics Seminar for Teachers](#) will be held June 14-16 on the Montana State University campus in Bozeman.

Professors and industry experts are offering a multi-day professional development program featuring the best practices in teaching economics at the high school level.

Enjoy three days in beautiful Bozeman, Montana at the MSU Campus. Classes will be offered in Linfield Hall with teacher lodging available on campus.

A detailed schedule of the seminar's events can be downloaded directly at <http://econedmontana.org/wordpress2/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/2017-Teacher-Seminar-Class-Schedule.pdf>.

MCEE and sponsors will cover expenses for:

- Lodging
- Mileage
- Meals
- Parking
- Class Materials

Registration includes a \$50 fee that will be refunded upon successful completion of the course. The registration fee can be [paid online](#) ([econedmontana.org/donate](http://econedmontana.org/donate)) and registration forms for the [2017 Economics Seminar for Teachers](#) can be downloaded in both [Word](#) and [PDF](#) formats.

Registration forms and payment must be completed by Friday, May 5.

500-level college accreditation is under review for EDCI 588 course. For those who opt for the one college credit, 30 hours of out of class work will accompany the course. For those seeking to earn OPI renewal units, no additional assignment is necessary.

For questions, please email [mcee@montana.edu](mailto:mcee@montana.edu).

### **[Learn Scratch this Summer Online from UNI "Introduction to Programming Using Scratch" Course](#)**

The University of Northern Iowa is pleased to announce it will once again be offering the online course "[An Introduction to Programming using Scratch](#)" during the summer of 2017. This course has been taught to approximately 150 participants EACH of the last three summers.

The course will run from June 5 - July 14 and will require a TOTAL commitment of approximately 20-25 hours. The pace of the course is up to the participants who may start and end at their convenience at any time during the course offering—so long as the course is completed by July 14.

The course assumes no prior programming experience and will include material on teaching Scratch for Logo, storytelling, text interaction, and game playing, as well as coverage of some advanced topics. Each of the six units is a blend of 60-90 minutes of lecture videos (roughly 5 minutes each), hands on guided activities, and independent programming assignments.

Participants may complete the course for personal interest FREE of charge. Participants interested in earning 1 hour of graduate workshop credit (suitable for license renewal in the state of Iowa) have the OPTION of doing so for a fee of \$100 billed by the University of Northern Iowa.

Further details and the registration form are available at: [www.cs.uni.edu/~schafer/outreach/cs4hs/](http://www.cs.uni.edu/~schafer/outreach/cs4hs/)

Please feel free to contact Ben Schafer at [schafer@cs.uni.edu](mailto:schafer@cs.uni.edu) with questions or additional information.

### **Registration is Now Open for MIET 2017 in Great Falls – June 13 & 14**

The [2017 Montana Institute on Educational Technology \(mietttechdays.weebly.com\)](http://mietttechdays.weebly.com) will be held June 13 and 14 in Great Falls at Great Falls College MSU.

Registration is now open with the Early-Bird rate of \$110 available through May 19.

Participants will be able to earn up to 15 OPI Renewal Units or one (1) or two (2) graduate credits from Montana State University Northern.

Complete MIET 2017 details—including registration, costs and requirements for graduate credit, and Institute schedule—can all be found at [mietttechdays.weebly.com](http://mietttechdays.weebly.com).

### **BirdBrain Technologies' Finch Robot Loan Program – Get a Free Flock of Finch Robots**

Would you like to borrow a free flock of [Finch Robots \(www.finchrobot.com\)](http://www.finchrobot.com) for your school or library?

Apply for BirdBrain Technologies' Finch Robot Loan Program by April 30, to borrow Finches for the 2017-2018 school year.

Designed at Carnegie Mellon University, the [Finch](http://www.finchrobot.com) is a robot that inspires and delights students learning computer science by providing them a tangible representation of their code. The Finch responds to light, temperature, and obstacles, among many other capabilities.

It has support for a range of programming languages and environments, with coding options for students from ages 5 to 105.

Established curriculum for using the Finch Robot is available online, and curriculum design help is also available.

In this school year alone, teachers in 200+ schools across the contiguous United States have impacted more than 30,000 students through the Finch Robot Loan Program.

Learn more and apply for a loan of free Finch Robots here: [www.finchrobot.com/loanprogram](http://www.finchrobot.com/loanprogram).

### **Celebrate Earth Day & Spring with New Resources from Start Here, Go Places.**

Stop and smell the roses – and pick up some new materials.

Before those April showers usher in even more flowers, we're offering up some freshly picked resources for you to share with your students.

For as many colors as there are in the garden, there are just as many types of accountants. This month's activity is all about introducing and familiarizing your students with the environmentally focused kind. The [Go Green to Get Green, While Doing Good](#) worksheet prompts students to research and present on eco-friendly accounting jobs of all kinds.

With summer just around the corner, we've also added an article to help you help your students make the most of their breaks. [Summer Is for More Than Sleep](#) is a guide to helping students explore jobs by understanding the beyond-the-paycheck value they'll get out of having one -- and giving them some ideas about the various opportunities that are out there.

Download the worksheet, check out the article and peruse all the other materials we have at [StartHereGoPlaces.com](#).

### **[EverFi Announces Three \\$1,000 529 Scholarships for STEM](#)**

Did you learn something from [Future Goals - Hockey Scholar](#) that sparked your interest in STEM skills? Enter the STEM Scholarship Competition to share your story. Three winning students will receive a \$1,000 529 College Savings Scholarship and have their stories featured on the EverFi blog.

[The STEM Scholarship Competition](#) is open to U.S. students who have completed at least one lesson in Future Goals - Hockey Scholar during the 2016-2017 academic year. Entries must be received by May 12, 2017 at 5:00pm EST.

Future Goals - Hockey Scholar is a [standards aligned](#), online STEM course that brings science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) concepts to life through the game of hockey. Learning modules will build student's understanding of foundational STEM concepts, develop scientific and critical thinking, and highlight STEM careers.

If you are interested in learning more about the program, or have questions, reach out to Cari Turner at [cturner@everfi.com](mailto:cturner@everfi.com) or 406.204.2224.

### **[Pace GenCyber: Cybersecurity Summer Workshop for High School Teachers](#)**

The Seidenberg School of Computer Science and Information Systems at Pace University (Pleasantville, New York) invites you to attend a seven-day summer workshop aimed at introducing high school teachers to diverse topics in cybersecurity, free of cost.

The workshop will include lectures, hands-on exercises, presentations by industry professionals, group discussions, and lesson design projects. By the end of the program, participants will develop lesson plans that integrate cybersecurity concepts into their curricula or after-school programming.

Participants will receive a \$1,250 stipend upon completion of all workshop sessions and activities.

Topics will include:

- Basic Concepts in Cybersecurity
- Cryptography
- Access Control
- Biometrics
- Cybersecurity Analytics

Program details and application instructions are available at [www.pace.edu/seidenberg/gencyber](http://www.pace.edu/seidenberg/gencyber).

For more information or for questions, please contact [gencyber@pace.edu](mailto:gencyber@pace.edu).

This workshop is supported by the GenCyber program, and funded jointly by the National Security Agency and the National Science Foundation.

### **Belgrade Business Ed Department Looking for Information & Input from the Field**

Belgrade High School business teachers Nancy Francis and Leslie Peterson are looking at adding WordPress to their Web Design class and are wondering if there are any school using WordPress.

If you are using WordPress and/or have information and resources you would like to share, please contact Leslie at [lpeterson@belgradeschools.com](mailto:lpeterson@belgradeschools.com).

### **GAERF 2017 Student Design Competition**

The [Graphic Arts Education and Research Foundation](http://www.gaerf.org) (GAERF) ([www.gaerf.org](http://www.gaerf.org)) is having their ninth annual student design contest. This year's theme is MAGnify!

Students are encouraged to design and print a full-page magazine ad for a product of their choice that is linked to digital media that demonstrates the role that print plays in today's multichannel media mix. The contest is open to all secondary and post-secondary students studying graphics communications/printing, advertising, graphic design, or interactive media program.

Entries selected by GAERF will be judged by a panel of industry professionals. Winners and their instructors will be notified by July 17, 2017.

1st Place Awards: \$2,000 plus a two-day all-expenses paid trip for the student and instructor to attend PRINT 17, September 13-14, 2017, in Chicago, IL (one secondary school winner; one post-secondary school winner).

2nd Place Awards: \$1,500 (one secondary school winner; one post-secondary school winner).

3rd Place Awards: \$1,000 (one secondary school winner; one post-secondary school winner).

Entries must be submitted by teachers/instructors, and are due June 2, 2017. Visit GAERF's [website](#) for the contest entry form and rules.

## [Explore Game-Based Karel, Turtle, and 3D Modeling Courses in NCLab for FREE](#)

The NCLab Team ([nclab.com](http://nclab.com)) is pleased to announce the release of new versions of the popular Karel Coding, Turtle Coding and 3D Modeling courses.

These courses **are** free for educators. Visit <http://nclab.com/teachers/> to request your free professional development license. Major improvements include dozens of self-graded quizzes and performance tasks (creative projects) aligned to Common Core, NGSS and CSForAll standards. In addition, NCLab has implemented many other minor features based on instructor and student feedback.

### Karel Coding

Learn programming with the engaging power of a computer game. Students solve fun mazes, write programs in a simplified Python language, and earn karate-like belts and certificates. Designed for complete beginners as well as for students who already know Scratch. Ages 10-99.

Read more at [nclab.com/karel-coding-course](http://nclab.com/karel-coding-course).

### Turtle Coding

Students are introduced to Python coding by drawing beautiful patterns with the Python Turtle. They learn how to use the Creative Suite to create their own designs, save them in their NCLab account, export them for laser cutting and 3D printing, and share them online. Ages 11-99.

Learn more at [nclab.com/turtle-coding-course](http://nclab.com/turtle-coding-course).

### 3D Modeling

This course introduces students to Constructive Solid Geometry (CSG) by building models they know from games, sports and movies. Students also learn how to use the Creative Suite to create their own models, save in their user account, export for 3D printing, and share with others online. Ages 12-99.

Discover more about 3D Modeling at [nclab.com/3d-modeling-course](http://nclab.com/3d-modeling-course).

## Fun Facts and Trivia

The Diomedes Islands are two islands in the Bering Strait, about halfway between mainland Alaska and Siberia, also called the Gvozdev Islands.

There are two islands, called *Big Diomedes* and *Little Diomedes* respectively. Big Diomedes belongs to Siberia and Little Diomedes is part of Alaska.

They are sometimes called Tomorrow Island (Big Diomedes) and Yesterday Isle (Little Diomedes) because the big island is 21 hours ahead of the small one—except when changing daylight saving time, done on different dates.

Little Diomedes is also known as Krusenstern Island and the Inupiat who live there call it *Ignaluk*. The other island, Big Diomedes is also known as *Imaqliq*, *Inaliq*, *Nunarbuk* or Ratmanov Island.

The Chukchi Sea is to the north and the Bering Sea to the south of the islands

The islands are separated by an international border and the International Date Line which is approximately 0.6 miles from each island.

At the closest distance between Little Diomedede and Big Diomedede, the two islands are only about 2.5 miles apart.

People who live on Little Diomedede Island do so in a small village called Diomedede, on the west side of the island, with a population of about 170.

The village of Diomedede has a school, a local store, and the Inupiat there are famous for their ivory carving. Mail is delivered by helicopter . . . weather permitting.

Teams from Diomedede School are known as the Diomedede Dateliners.

Little Diomedede Island is located about 25 miles off Alaska's Seward Peninsula coast and about 26.6 miles from the coastal village of Wales.

The people who lived on Big Diomedede Island were moved to mainland Russia by the Soviet government. Today, a small Russian military base is currently on the island.

There are plans to build a connection between Siberia and Alaska, either as a bridge or a tunnel (Bering Strait bridge spanning the Bering Strait). In that case, the Diomedede Islands would be a halfway point, as they are about the middle of the Bering Strait.

During winter, an ice bridge usually spans the distance between these two islands; therefore during such times it is theoretically possible—although not legal, since travel between the two islands is forbidden—to walk between the United States and Russia.

The first European to reach the islands was the Russian explorer Semyon Dezhnyov in 1648. Eighty years later, it was re-discovered by the Danish navigator Vitus Bering on August 16, 1728, the day on which the Russian Orthodox Church celebrates the memory of the martyr St. Diomedede.

In 1732, a Russian geodesist, Mikhail Gvozdev, determined longitude and latitude for the two islands.

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*