



## December 2022 Newsletter

Dear Friends,

This joyful time of year brings plans, reflection, celebration and, yes, expenses! The holiday season is the perfect reminder of the importance of personal finance and economics education. And it's a fantastic opportunity to apply crucial concepts like budgeting, saving, and credit to student learning through the lens of the celebratory season.

As always, MCEE offers educators a variety of innovative resources to make this work easy, effective, and engaging. Check out some of what we have to offer by logging in to [our website](#) and perusing lesson plans, activities, tips, and games. And keep an eye out later this month for our annual report highlighting our work and impact.

The last few months at MCEE have been chock full of programs, events, and reminders of the power of personal finance education. I had the pleasure of speaking with the Maryland Bankers' Association podcast "MBA Today" to talk about economic education. [Find it here!](#) And I recently wrote a letter to the editor of SOMD News that pushes for personal finance and economics education across the state. [Check it out.](#)

This holiday season, I am thankful for all of you, your support, and the great work you do to expand personal finance education for Maryland's students. I wish you a wonderful, relaxing month filled with family, fun, and reflection.

Warmly,  
Julie Weaver  
Executive Director, MCEE

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**New, Expanded Programs!**



MCEE is always developing new ways to engage educators and students. We're excited to point out two new programs for students and educators!

### **New Teacher Course: Teaching Savings & Investing Using the Stock Market Game**

This course guides educators in helping students learn to build wealth, research investment opportunities, and apply their experience playing the Stock Market Game to foundational topics of saving and investing! Participants meet with industry experts and experienced Stock Market Game educators for insights on the economy and helpful classroom tips. Educators earn one credit toward CPD certification for attending. Classes are ongoing, but keep an eye out for course updates.

### **Finance Lab Field Trips Expand to Salisbury University**

Educators on Maryland's Eastern Shore, we have wonderful news! Our Finance Lab Field Trip series, which welcomes classes participating in the Stock Market Game to a University Finance Lab, is expanding from Towson University to include Salisbury University. Schedule a FREE field trip to the Salisbury Finance Lab, featuring stock tickers, trading monitors and engaging lessons from MCEE and University experts! Learn more [here](#).

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## **Educator & Student Program Updates**



Check out the latest programs and experiences available to students and educators:

- **Danny Dollar Program:** The instructional children's book, *Danny Dollar Millionaire Extraordinaire: The Lemonade Escapade*, is now available to educators and students! The entertaining book tells the story of a young Black boy who uses savings and investing to chase his dream of owning a basketball team. The program comes with supplemental lesson plans and activities. To learn more about using Danny Dollar in your classroom, contact us at [mcee@towson.edu](mailto:mcee@towson.edu).
- **Economics Challenge & Personal Finance Challenge Intro Sessions - January 24:** Educators interested in guiding students in the Economics Challenge or Personal Finance Challenge this year: join us to learn more about these impactful academic competitions! Register for the Economics Challenge session [here](#), and the Personal Finance Challenge session [here](#).
- **Stock Market Game Intro Session - January 24:** Educators, stop by this intro session and learn to deliver this engaging student program and access classroom resources. [Details](#).

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## **Recent MCEE Events Engage Educators, Students and Families**

**Family Finance Night:** In late October, MCEE visited Takoma Park Elementary School in Montgomery County to deliver its Family Finance Night! Sponsored by Wells Fargo, this after-school event helped elementary school students and families build basic money management skills through a series of, hands-on activities. Attendees went from station to station as they explored kid-friendly questions such as “can you afford a pet?”, “how can your earning support your purchases?” and “what do a variety of careers pay?” Thanks to all volunteers for making this event such a success!

**Baltimore City Social Studies Resource Fair:** MCEE was proud to attend the Baltimore City Social Studies Resource Fair last month, ensuring educators could access our many programs, experiences and insights. We spoke with dozens of educators interested in ways to incorporate personal finance lessons into their instruction!

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## **Educator Spotlight: Middle School Teacher Ed Keeler Teaches Economics and Personal Finance Through History**



Ed Keeler, an 8th grade Social Studies teacher at Easton High School in Talbot County, understands the value of personal finance and economics education. And by connecting these concepts to historic events, he makes sure his students do too, as they explore ideas through discussions and lessons. Learn more about Ed's amazing work!

[Read his story here](#)

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### **Sponsor In Focus: First Financial Federal Credit Union**

Sponsors and supporters ensure our work continues to impact students and educators across Maryland. First Financial is a huge part of that support. For more than 20 years, it has been by our side, volunteering at events, helping students access the Stock Market Game, and ensuring they build personal finance understanding. Learn more about First Financial's generous support and partnership here.

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### **Giving Season**

Giving Tuesday was last week! As you consider causes and organizations to support this holiday season, we hope you keep MCEE in mind. Your support of our work has allowed us to reach 1,800+ educators a year, and 1.2 million students over the last seven years! We accept and appreciate donations through our website, gifts from donor-advised funds, social media fundraisers, and more.

[Learn more and donate](#)