



## *August 2024 Newsletter*

Dear Friends,

The school year is upon us! To the educators we serve, I hope that as you prepare for the bustling months to come, you're feeling relaxed, refreshed, and excited to have an immeasurable impact on students.

For many educators, summer also included learning - on your own, with your colleagues, and at our annual Summit in June. Read on below for a recap of this fantastic event guiding educators in the latest techniques and strategies for delivering personal finance and economics education.

We at MCEE are excited about the upcoming year of amazing student programs and educator learning experiences. We recently spoke with the Baltimore Sun about the importance of financial education. [Find it here](#). And this summer, we announced our brand new logo! Read below for how this new visual identity is illustrative of our mission, our work, and our aspirations. Personally, I'm honored to have been appointed to Maryland Comptroller Brooke Lierman's Financial Literacy Council - more on that below as well.

In preparing for the school year, I hope you'll remember that MCEE was founded by educators to support educators! Whether educators need personal finance and economics resources that fit their lesson plans, student programs and field trips that engage their students, or professional development workshops that enhance their teaching, we're here to help.

Looking forward,

Julie Weaver

MCEE Executive Director

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**Introducing our New Logo**



MCEE's new logo exemplifies our mission and our proven impact in preparing Maryland students to graduate high school with the financial knowledge they need to make thoughtful, rational decisions as they pursue their dreams and shape their futures.

The upward arrow in our new logo is a recognizable image for financial growth. It serves as a fitting symbol for the personal and financial success that comes from understanding and applying financial and economic concepts. The box around our acronym is a metaphor for the structure that financial education provides for that positive trajectory to lift students, families, and communities. It also symbolizes the supportive spaces where MCEE guides students towards opportunity through its programs: schools, homes and communities.

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### **Collaboration, Innovation, and Growth: Recapping the 2024 Financial & Economic Education Summit**



In June, more than 130 educators, supporters, speakers and partners dove deep into techniques, strategies, and innovative approaches to teaching personal finance and economics education in their classrooms at the 2024 MCEE Financial & Economic Education Summit.

The full-day event featured educators of all subjects exploring ways to incorporate this important content into their lessons. They learned from fellow educators and financial professionals in engaging, collaborative workshops and presentations, including *6 AI Productivity Tools Every Teacher Should Know About*, *Financial Simulations in the Classroom*, and *How Do I Get My Students Excited About Money*.

Check out video recordings of a few of the day's sessions by creating an educator account (or logging in) on our [website, here!](#) Beyond these recordings and session PowerPoint presentations, MCEE Educator Resources provide access to useful information and expert-based guidance. Accessing these resources requires you to log in and create a free account.

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## Julie Weaver Appointed to Financial Literacy Advisory Council

MCEE Executive Director Julie Weaver was recently appointed to the Comptroller of Maryland Brooke Lierman's Financial Literacy Advisory Council. The group of experts and thought leaders creates and executes a robust financial literacy policy agenda, including developing strategies for educating communities around financial literacy and creating new resources to meet community needs.

This honor reflects the Comptroller's commitment to expanding access to financial literacy education for all Marylanders.

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## Upcoming Programs for Educators



[Find our full calendar here](#)

- **Wednesday, 9/5: Introduction to the Stock Market Game:** Join one of two webinars ( 5pm and 7pm) to explore how to guide students in the Stock Market Game and apply it to curriculum, and why it's so impactful for students. Details [here \(5pm\)](#) and [here \(7pm\)](#)
  - **Friday and Saturday, 9/27-28: Council on Economic Education National Conference:** Join MCEE's national affiliate, the Council for Economic Education (CEE), in Cleveland for its K-12 educator Conference and explore ways to integrate personal finance and economics into your classroom. [Details.](#)
  - **Saturday, 10/5: Is Capitalism Good for the Poor?:** This insightful program guides educators in analyzing empirical evidence to address the question of how capitalist institutions influence the well-being of the poor, from communist China, Brazil's rainforest frontier, and democratic but tradition-bound India, to civil strife in some African nations. Attendees receive a \$100 stipend! [Learn more and register by 9/20.](#)
  - **Saturday, 10/26: Using Behavioral Economics Concepts to Teach the Maryland Personal Finance Standards:** Grade 6-12 teachers, earn one MSDE CPD credit by attending this full-day workshop at Anne Arundel County Public Schools. [Details and registration by 10/4.](#)
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**High School to Homeownership Workshop  
at Camden Yards was a WIN**



*Put me in coach, I'm ready to TEACH!* Last month, more than 30 educators from across Maryland convened at Camden Yards and stacked up the wins at MCEE's High School to Homeownership Workshop. They learned how to guide students in lessons about wealth creation through homeownership and the home buying process, and explored tips, activities, and directly applicable lesson ideas for their classroom.

Then, they rooted the O's on to a 10-4 victory over the Blue Jays from a private suite at Camden Yards. The free workshop was coordinated by MCEE in partnership with the Maryland Realtors Association. Go O's!

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### **Educator Resource of the Month: MCEE Programs & Resources**

Every month, our newsletter includes a resource educators can use to deliver personal finance and economics education to their students. To kick off the school year, we're highlighting MCEE itself! Check out the many ways we can support teachers and educational nonprofits in their classrooms and after school clubs:

- Student programs: Expand and deepen your students' learning experience by integrating MCEE's student learning opportunities into your classroom or club this year. We have programs to engage students from all grade bands, from the Stock Market Game and the Personal Finance Challenge to our Finance Lab Field Trips to Towson and Salisbury University, the Poster Contest, and our new Poetry Contest.
- Course development and curricular support: MCEE's experienced education team is available to provide guidance and share best practices for schools and school systems interested in offering new courses and integrating personal finance and economics concepts into math, ELA, social studies, family and consumer sciences and more..
- Standards-focused instructional resources: MCEE has a library of classroom resources that we have created or curated from a wide range of free resources. We have lesson plans, reading lists, classroom activities, and more. Contact us to discuss your needs.
- Professional development workshops: Keep an eye on our calendar for our regular professional development experiences on topics of all kinds - all intended to level-up your teaching and expand your understanding of economics and personal finance education.

**Educator Spotlight: Rob Phelan Uses the  
“Three E’s” to Teach Personal Finance**



Rob Phelan, a math teacher at Middletown High School in Frederick County, has a simple yet powerful philosophy.

"If it's not exciting, engaging and educational, it doesn't belong in my curriculum." He calls this the “three E’s,” and the approach is having an impact on his students’ learning of and interest in personal finance.

[Read the full Spotlight here](#)

**OUR IMPACT**

**2023-2024**



**ADDS UP!**