Maryland Council on Economic Education Announces Winners from the M&T Bank Personal Finance Challenge Bowl

TOWSON, MD, April 5, 2017 – Students from across Maryland competed in the M&T Bank Personal Finance Challenge Bowl on April 4 at M&T Bank Stadium. The Maryland Council on Economic Education (MCEE), a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving economic and financial literacy in the state’s schools grades K-16, hosted the annual event, sponsored by M&T Bank. Almost 200 students competed in the event and were able to demonstrate their knowledge of financial topics while they competed for cash prizes.

MCEE created the Personal Finance Challenge as an opportunity for middle and high school students to demonstrate their personal finance knowledge on topics such as spending and credit, savings and investing, and income and money management in a competition with students from across the state. Augie Chiasera, president of M&T Bank’s Baltimore and Chesapeake regions, addressed both the students and the attendees at the event.

The M&T Bank Personal Finance Challenge Bowl began with two rounds for middle school students and three rounds for high school students which included short written quizzes on each topic. Four high school teams and two middle school teams received the highest scores and were able to continue to the Quiz Bowl round, in which students buzzed in to answer additional financial questions as well as questions on current events in the news.

Each student and teacher of the high school’s fourth place team received $50, third place received $75, second place received $100, and first place received $250. Each student and teacher of the middle school’s second place team received $75 and first place received $125. All cash prizes were sponsored by M&T Bank. Additionally, AOF 1 from Applications & Research Lab, the first-place high school team, has qualified to go on to the national competition in Missouri.

The prize winning high school teams of MCEE’s M&T Bank Personal Finance Challenge Bowl finished as follows:

- **1st Place High School**: AOF 1, Applications & Research Lab
  Kai Archuleta
  Alex Larsson
  Graham Schuckman
  Jonathan Taylor
  **Advisor**: Maddy Halbach
  **County**: Howard

- **2nd Place High School**: Boardwalk Emperor$, LaPlata High
  James Hume
  Douglas Kalmus
Zachary Kozel  
Kinsley Tyler  
**Advisor:** Nicole Deavers  
**County:** Charles County

- **3rd Place High School:** MSJ Bloombergs, Mount Saint Joseph High School  
  Luke Alli  
  Nick Palacorolla  
  Trent Rabor  
  Jordan Woo  
  **Advisor:** Julius Prezelski  
  **County:** Baltimore

- **4th Place High School:** Millionaires Club 1, Mt Hebron High  
  Luke DeCray  
  Nick Gordon  
  Matthew Michaels  
  Hersh Shah  
  **Advisor:** Bernadette Bechta  
  **County:** Howard

The prize winning middle school teams of MCEE’s M&T Bank Personal Finance Challenge Bowl finished as follows:

- **1st Place Middle School:** Arbutus Bulls, Arbutus Middle School  
  Lilli Hassaneen  
  Justin Maddox  
  Ray Sutton  
  Jacob Wallman  
  **Advisor:** Mike Martin  
  **County:** Baltimore

- **2nd Place Middle School:** SMS Thunderbirds 2, Sudlersville Middle School  
  Maddie Blouch  
  Nathan Olah  
  Hugh Lesniowski  
  Andrew Williams  
  **Advisor:** David Wilson  
  **County:** Queen Anne’s County