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GEORGIA COUNCIL ON ECONOMIC EDUCATION

GCEE Newsletter - October 2022



LETTER FROM THE GCEE TEAM

Economic Education Month Is Back!

For the second consecutive year, October has been designated “Economic Education Month” in Georgia. The Georgia Council on Economic Education (GCEE) will work diligently throughout the month to highlight the importance and relevance of teaching economic concepts to K-12 students across the state. Throughout the month, GCEE will be offering several professional development

opportunities for teachers and engaging competitions for students. A few highlights include:

- Engaging economics themed [workshops](#) for grades K-12
- A webinar with Chris Clark, President and CEO of the Georgia Chamber of Commerce
- A teacher tour of Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport
- An “Econ Empress and the Scarcity Kid” meme generator competition

Preparing students for their economic roles as productive workers, informed consumers and savers, involved citizens, and lifelong decision makers in a globally interdependent world is one of the most important things we can do to ensure prosperity in our communities. Students with a clear understanding of basic economic principles will be equipped to make educated decisions that maximize benefits while minimizing costs.

GCEE has been helping teachers teach economics effectively for 50 years. In that time, we have worked with tens of thousands of educators in school systems across Georgia. We are committed to serving teachers during Economic Education Month by providing our services at no financial charge to teachers or their school systems.

It is our hope that you help us promote Economic Education Month by speaking with your family and friends about the importance of preparing K-12 students for their economic futures.

Follow us on [Twitter](#) for daily updates.

- Mike, Chris, Angie & Barbara





GEORGIA COUNCIL ON ECONOMIC EDUCATION 1972-2022

GCEE Celebrates 50 years

Vanessa Ellis describes the first Georgia Council workshop she attended as “unlike any professional development training I had ever been to.” She remembers building model airplanes during an activity teaching international trade.

“It was interactive, fun and we were having a blast while learning economics.”

Ellis, a social studies teacher at Veteran’s Middle School in Muscogee County and a 2017 Economics Teacher of the Year, told this story at an event held on September 13 at the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Georgia Council on Economic Education. For the last 50 years, the organization has stayed true to its mission of helping K-12 teachers like Ellis teach economics and personal finance in the public and independent schools of Georgia. Since 1972, the Council has conducted more than 3,500 workshops, served 75,000 teachers and – through those efforts – has reached hundreds of thousands of students.

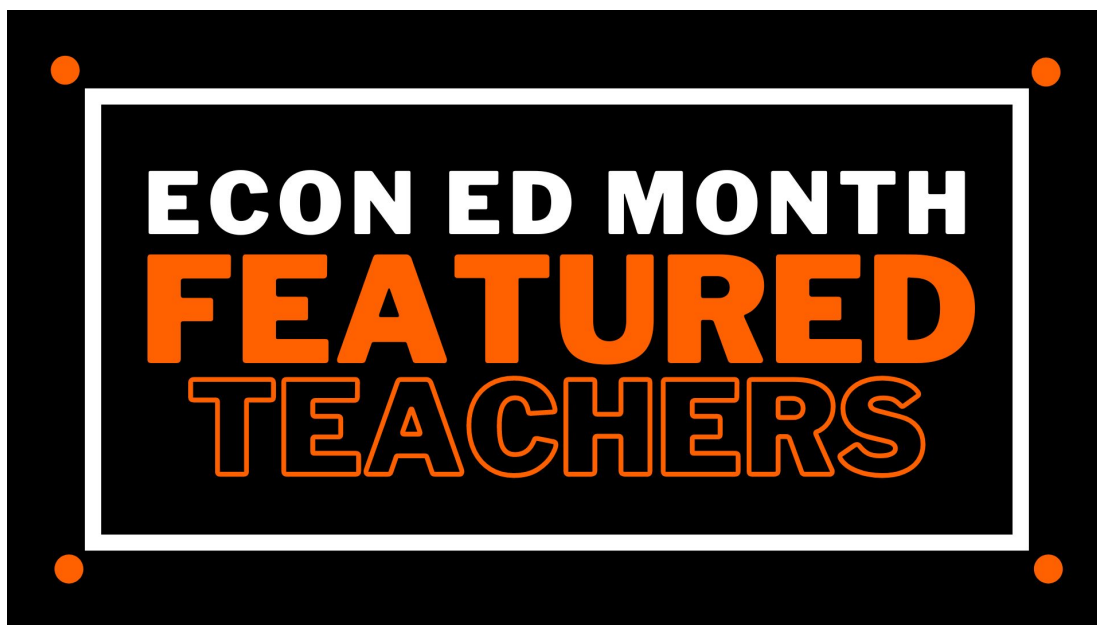
“The high quality resources and experiences I have gained from the Council have made me a better teacher and strengthened me professionally,” said Ellis. “They have bolstered my toolbox.”

Also speaking on the importance of economic education was Raphael Bostic, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, who was the keynote speaker.

Attendees also heard from GCEE Executive Director Mike Raymer, who spoke on

the history of the Council. He also assured the group that for the next 50 years, the Council will continue to meet the needs of teachers and students with new workshops, programs and materials.

“The Georgia Council on Economic Education is the leading advocate for economics and financial literacy education in Georgia, creating more informed, economically literate Georgians and helping them lead more productive lives,” said Mary Beth Coke, Senior Vice President, Truist, who will take over as GCEE Board Chair next May. In her closing remarks, she noted the work of the Georgia Council is made possible by everyone in the room – funders, partners and teachers – by giving their “time, talent and continued ongoing support to the Council.”



TEACHER RECOGNITION

Featuring Excellence In Teaching

Each month we shine a spotlight on teachers who have benefited from attending GCEE workshops and using our teacher resources. Winning teachers receive Amazon gift cards and signed certificates to acknowledge their fantastic work. To nominate an outstanding K-12 teacher of economics and personal finance for this honor, please contact GCEE Program Manager [Angie Battle](#).

Mike Phillips, M.E. Freeman Elementary, Warren County Schools

"Training with GCEE has introduced me to new strategies that have made learning more relevant for my students. Many students struggle with the



question of “Why do I need to learn this?” I believe that when learning is more interactive, it becomes more engaging for students. GCEE’s materials and workshops always focus on keeping things more interactive and have helped spark an interest in preparing my students for their future careers.”

Ashley Dawson, Lee Middle School, Coweta County Schools



"GCEE makes it incredibly easy to incorporate economics into every lesson I teach. Their fool-proof methods and resources are easy to use and require little to no prep and ensure that the students are going to have a clear understanding of the economics and history standards. GCEE provides engaging lessons that are just the right level of rigor to push students without frustrating them.

Utilizing GCEE resources in the classroom is a guaranteed way to ensure students and teachers understand and love economics."

Tammy Howard, West Laurens High, Laurens County Schools



"I have enjoyed teaching economics to my students and GCEE has really helped make the teaching and learning aspect of economics so engaging. I find the resources they provide to be very useful and relevant to real life. GCEE has provided me with many interactive activities to introduce economic concepts and foster personal finance strategies that allow my students to formulate rational decisions on real life concepts so they will become efficient lifelong learners."



NEW TEACHER RESOURCE

The Cool Cats of Econ Return

The Georgia Council on Economic Education recently released “Earl and Starla Go to the Farm,” the second book of a series created to highlight examples of economics in the real world. The new release follows everyone’s favorite cats as they pay a visit to a local dairy farm to explore how new technologies have helped Farmer Emily and Farmer Dave become more productive over the years.

Since its release, hundreds of elementary teachers throughout Georgia have received copies of the book during workshops designed specifically to demonstrate how children’s literature can be an important tool to teach economic concepts.

Looking for a copy of your own? Visit the GCEE [store](#) to purchase.

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