



A Banner Year for Guest Speakerships in 2010-2011

Stocks in the Future welcomed many guest speakers into our classrooms in 2010-2011! Experts from the financial sector generously lent their time to our middle school students with presentations and activities. Bringing their business knowledge to the classes, these special guests made an impact on students by explaining what they do for their financial institution and how it connects it to the SIF curriculum. All of our guests encouraged students to reach their financial dreams and academic potential.

Students and teachers alike welcomed these leaders throughout the year, with nearly all our classrooms having a guest speaker. **Ms. Brooke Hodges** from **Bank of America** lent her time to teach students about general banking skills and the importance of staying in school. Sixth grade classes at both Fallstaff Middle and Thomas Jefferson Middle Schools benefitted from her expertise.

Mr. Dan Shapiro, coming all the way from a **Goldman Sachs** headquarters in PA, spoke to an entire middle school at Washington Jesuit Academy. Mr. Shapiro shared his professional insights when teaching about savings bonds with a video: "What is a Savings Bond?" Students took away a plethora of information, compliments of his wealth of knowledge.

Mr. Jim Weglein from **Summit Financial Group** visited Arlington Middle School with his colleague, **Ms. Denise McKissock**. During this informative presentation to the eighth grade class, Mr. Weglein helped the students compare media companies. With SIF students able to invest in a number of media companies, the exercise was especially relevant to their investment decision-making. These guests made a big difference by helping these youngsters compare the likes of Netflix, TimeWarner, Disney and more.

Legg Mason lent some of its expertise to a sixth grade class at Thomas Jefferson Middle School: **Mr. Barry Bilson**, accompanied by **Ms. Kelly Spilman** and **Ms. Madison Awalt**. The students eagerly absorbed Mr. Bilson's presentation about investment terminology. Not only did this expand these lucky sixth graders' vocabulary skills, it will enable them to grasp concepts when they read business and finance news.

PNC Bank made a huge impression by visiting numerous schools over the 2010-2011 year. With two appearances at Professional Development sessions for SIF teachers and presenting to students at five schools, PNC's representatives gave an unparalleled amount of their time. To assist SIF teachers, **Mr. Franklin McNeil**, **Mr. Joe Jennings** and **Mr. Ramsey Harris** spoke about the importance of financial literacy in schools and tips on talking to students about risk and investing. Having already delivered lessons to middle schoolers, it is safe to say that their presentation was of great value to the teachers.

Mr. McNeil again lent his time to both John Ruhrah Middle and The Barclay School in a fascinating lesson about “Wants versus Needs”. Students thought about how they would survive on a deserted island by comparing what they need to what they wanted for this experience. This was very eye opening experience for many of the students that participated in the activity. With co-speaker Mr. Jennings, Mr. McNeil again lent this valuable lesson to lucky seventh graders at Fallstaff Middle School. Moreover, these two PNC experts shared this experience with Francis Scott Key School’s eighth graders. To top it off, PNC opened up their downtown Baltimore headquarters, their trading floor and their bank’s vault to a lucky group of SIF students in May. Fallstaff Middle’s seventh grade class earned a field trip and took away an experience of a lifetime.

Stocks in the Future is thankful for all the financial professionals who entered our classrooms this school year. All of our guests made a lasting impression on our students and their messages will be remembered for years to come.