



## APRIL UPDATE



April showers, interpreted by Stocks in the Future(SIF), suggests a 'rain' of activities including orchestrating 'graduation' days for eighth grade classes whose 100+ students continue tracking their portfolios while in high school; introducing to new middle schools the potential for including SIF classes in September; creating financial games to be posted on our website; updating the curriculum; preparing the 'reward' trip exploring PNC's bank vault for Fallstaff Middle School students who won the SIF Attendance Contest (95% in January); forming plans for the Washington

Jesuit Academy's excursion to the Federal Bureau of Engraving, thanks to *Goldman Sachs*; and waiting to hear grant results for the JHU Carey Business School funding request from the National Science Foundation to analyze SIF's impact.

Topping these activities is SIF's continuing requests for philanthropic generosity to underwrite this important opportunity. Praxis Engineering epitomizes corporate support and may hear the thunderous applause SIF generates recognizing their many, many years for donating their outstanding web genius crafting the SIF website ([www.stocksinthefuture.org](http://www.stocksinthefuture.org)). They recently agreed to continue their partnership with SIF as we prepare for growth in many areas including student participation, more intricate web interaction, and introduction of new components. In addition to students, teachers join in applauding the quality website that enables efficient confirmation of students' grades and attendance, conducting quarterly quizzes, and application of web-site illustrations for teaching financial life skills. And teachers' unspoken but meaningful benefit is the enhancement of their own financial acumen.

### Insider stories:

- Numerous SIF classes get important 'extras' with guest visits from financial experts thanks to: *PNC, M & T Bank, Goldman Sachs, BB&T and Bank of America.*
- After members attending the luncheon of the *Mid Atlantic Security Traders Association*, heard details of SIF's impact on the next generation of investors, and continued their financial support, the hotel bartender approached with sparkling eyes and a broad smile and said, "I heard about teaching the kids and I know how much we all need it. This is really good stuff. I like this. We need to learn about money because we all need it!"
- Results from SIF middle school teacher survey:
  - Arlington's Kelly Stevens: I notice my students are making connections between math and the real world. They are coming to school more and really putting in an effort into their school work.
  - Barclay's Renard Lewis: I have also observed my student's seem to be more enthusiastic this year especially my 601 class. They pick things up like sponges and that has made teaching much more enjoyable for me as well
  - Fallstaff's Kristina Golden: Students are showing a much deeper understanding of the financial world; Various career options have been opened up to students as a result ... Students are showing they understand why it is important to save and what the options are for investing their money in the future.