



About the North Carolina Capitol Challenge Stock Market Game™

Since 2004, the Capitol Hill Challenge has engaged US Representatives and Senators with more than 20,000 students across the country; in fact for the last 3 years EVERY member of Congress has participated making this program one of the few things that every member of Congress can agree upon! The program takes place every spring with student teams managing a hypothetical \$100,000 portfolio, investing in real stocks, bonds and mutual funds, known as the Stock Market Game™ (SMG). Students utilize technology in this multi-disciplinary program to enhance math skills and focus on the importance of long-term saving and investing. In light of the success of the program at the national level the North Carolina Council on Economic Education launched the North Carolina Capitol Challenge of the SMG.

The Value for a Legislator to Participate

The NC Capitol Challenge will help keep Members of the General Assembly informed about the real world learning happening in classrooms across the state and more specifically in their home districts. The SMG program is an effective use of technology which results in better understanding of math concepts, the global economy, business, economics and personal finance. Additionally the Capitol Challenge provides members of the General Assembly an opportunity to visit the schools in their home districts to witness the valuable academic and life lessons students learn from the SMG program—and to inspire and serve as role models for the students.

The Value for Students and Teachers

- Proven tool for raising scores on standardized math tests. According to a study conducted by Learning Points Associates and FINRA, students scored significantly higher on standardized math tests than their peers who did not participate.
- Proven tool for improving Economic and Financial Understanding
 - NAEP Results—Students who played the Stock Market Game out performed the national average overall and in every category measured: The *American Economic Review* (May 2008) reported the most recent results of NAEP research: “Stock market game participation is noted as **‘the only activity that shows a positive and significant relationship with test scores...Presumably this activity reinforced economic ideas learned in general economic courses.’** (p544).
 - 2008 Jump\$tart Survey results indicated students who participated in the Stock Market Game program at some point during 4-12 grade consistently scored significantly higher on tests of financial literacy than their peers who had not participated.
 - Correlated to state education standards.
- Proven tool for increasing understanding of investment and financial planning concepts for students AND their teachers. 75% of teachers surveyed said they made better financial planning decisions as a result of what they learned by utilizing the Stock Market Game with their students.

For more information contact the NCCEE: 919.791.1995





What is the SMG program?

The Stock Market Game is a comprehensive, engaging, real world program that advances student academic achievement in the core disciplines and enhances understanding of investment concepts among learners of all ages. The Stock Market Game program is an online stock market simulation which uses core subjects to teach math, business, financial and economic concepts, while reinforcing common core standards and 21st Century life skills. The program doubles as a statewide competition where students compete against their peers across the state for portfolio growth. Additionally, students are eligible to participate in the InvestWrite Essay Competition which provides a critical thinking component to the program. With the addition of the NC Capitol Challenge of the Stock Market Game Program, program supporters will have added visibility of North Carolina's leaders and policy makers, 69 of whom participated in the spring 2015 session of the NC Capitol Challenge.

Why Support it?

- Proven tool for improving Economic and Financial Understanding
 - Endorsed by the Department of the State Treasurer
 - NAEP Results-Students who played the stock market game out performed the national average overall and in every category measured: *The American Economic Review* (May 2008) reported the most recent results of NAEP research: “Stock market game participation is noted as **‘the only activity that shows a positive and significant relationship with test scores...Presumably this activity reinforced economic ideas learned in general economic courses.’** (p544).
 - 2008 Jump\$tart Survey results indicated students who participated in the SMG program at some point during 4-12 grade consistently scored significantly higher on tests of financial literacy than their peers who had not participated in the SMG program.
 - Endorsed by the NC Department of Public Instruction
- Proven tool for improving comprehension of mathematics concepts-According to a study conducted by Learning Points Associates and FINRA, students scored significantly higher .17-.25, on standardized math tests than their peers who did not participate

- Proven tool for increasing understanding of investment concepts for students AND their teachers-teachers made better financial planning decisions as a result of utilizing the program with their students
- Proven tool for increasing comprehension of business concepts
- Proven tool for motivating students to learn
- Economically and financially literate students are good for ALL business in NC as they are the future employees and consumers
- Contributions are eligible for CRA credit
- **Teachers are asking for help in bringing this program to their students!**