

GCEE Newsletter - October 2023



## LETTER FROM THE GCEE TEAM

## The Most Wonderful Time of the Year

As we head into October, the GCEE team is excited to spread the word about our favorite month of the year. That's right, it's ECON ED MONTH once again and we are ready to celebrate by promoting the importance of economic education across Georgia.

Econ Ed Month was created two years ago to help teachers and students understand how everyday economic decisions and policies affect their lives, their families, and their world. The month is also a time for us to promote the importance of teaching economics in our schools by sharing the many benefits of having an economically literate population of students.

Throughout October we will be serving hundreds of teachers by delivering special programs and resources that we have developed specifically for this wonderful occasion. By promoting economic education in the public and independent schools of Georgia, we all have the opportunity to improve

the lives of countless students who are making economic decisions daily.

What can you do to help spread the word about Econ Ed Month? Simple, you can let your friends, family, co-workers, and local barista know about the benefits of teaching economics to K-12 students. Students with a sound understanding of basic economic principles will be better positioned to make informed decisions in all walks of life.

Please follow us on <u>Twitter/X</u> (@Georgiaecon) to see and read about the many exciting programs and events we will be delivering for the next 31 days. Happy Econ Ed Month, everyone!

- Mike, Chris, Angie, Melissa



### **CELEBRATING ECONOMICS**

# Waffles, Puppets, Trivia and More!

To celebrate Econ Ed Month, GCEE will be hosting and delivering several special events throughout October. To kick things off, we will be partnering with the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta for an "Earl and Starla Go to a Federal Reserve Bank" book party. Participants will receive a copy of the book and then take a tour of the Fed...just like Earl and Starla!

Next, we will visit our great friends from Waffle House at the <u>Waffle House Museum</u> in Avondale Estates for a deep dive into some **Wafflenomics**. Teachers will learn about the history of the company and the logistics of serving millions of scattered, smothered, and covered meals each year.

We'll also be taking a group of teachers to the <u>Center for Puppetry Arts</u> to showcase the new **\$martPath videos and lessons** that are proving to be huge hits with teachers everywhere. It's a well-known fact that teaching econ with puppets makes everything more enjoyable 100% of the time.

Econ-themed trivia night did you say? Well, we've got you covered in that area as we will be hosting Georgia's first-ever **Econ Trivia Night Spectacular** for teachers at <u>New Realm Brewing Co.</u> The GCEE trivia question committee has been hard at work for months crafting the perfect questions for this eagerly anticipated event.

Finally, how could we not talk about Halloween during the month of October? Did you know U.S.

consumers spent more than \$10 billion on Halloween last year? That's a lot of tiny little candy bars! Teachers will have an opportunity to learn about the **economics of Halloween** during this ghoulish virtual event that will scare everyone into learning more econ.

Visit our <u>website</u> to learn more and to register for these unique professional development opportunities.



# TEACHER RECOGNITION Featuring Excellence in Education

Each month we shine a spotlight on teachers who have benefited from attending GCEE workshops and using our teacher resources. In honor of Econ Ed Month, we are recognizing three outstanding teachers. These teachers will receive Amazon gift cards and signed certificates acknowledging their fantastic work. To nominate an outstanding K-12 teacher for this honor, please contact GCEE Program Manager Angie Battle.

### Theresa Godbold, Peek's Chapel Elementary School, Rockdale County



GCEE has helped me teach econ standards in my classroom by giving me new and inventive ways to think about the information I'm teaching and how to deliver it in such a way that impacts my scholars' learning. Through GCEE I've learned how to incorporate books, play dough, and local history into my lesson plans. The tools they have given me allow me to keep my scholars engaged, while making the lesson something that they enjoy and will remember. Attending workshops and professional development opportunities with GCEE has allowed me to meet and engage with some of the most knowledgeable people in my field, and for that I am forever grateful.

### Chris Mercer, Bethesda Academy, Savannah

GCEE has so many engaging resources that I can use with my students. As a first year economics teacher, having those resources has simply been a life saver. The activities are standards-based and more importantly, are engaging for my students. Whether I'm using the Economic Implication packets with my 6th and 7th grade students or starting off the year with the Economic Foundations Playdoh activity with my 12th graders, GCEE has helped create ways that make teaching, and learning about



economics, effortless. The student resources and the new GCEE question bank have been so extremely helpful in the teaching process! It really is a great honor to be recognized by GCEE but really I'm just very grateful that these resources are available.

### Katie Scali, Instructional Coach, Gainesville City Schools



GCEE has played an integral role in my development as an economics and personal finance educator. Attending workshops and building relationships with other economics teachers from around the state provided inspiration and encouragement over the course of my career that no other institution has matched. The high quality, interactive lessons I learned from attending GCEE workshops became central to my approach to economics education, and still serve as a source of

inspiration as I work with teachers in my new role as an instructional coach. My classroom was deeply impacted by the things I learned from GCEE and I am honored to be a Featured Teacher during Economic Education Month. I am grateful for all the opportunities that GCEE has provided to me.

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#### Contact Us:

75 Piedmont Ave., NE Suite 700 Atlanta, GA 30303 404-413-7820

www.gcee.org

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