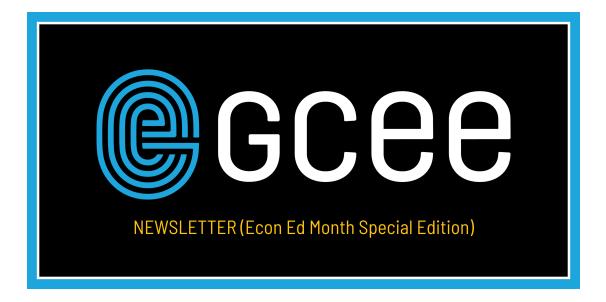
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GCEE Newsletter - October 2025

### LETTER FROM THE GCEE TEAM

# Happy Economic Education Month!

Since 2021, GCEE has proudly celebrated Economic Education Month each October to highlight the vital role economics plays in preparing students for the future. Economic education matters because it cultivates critical thinking skills that enable students to understand choices, weigh trade-offs, and connect everyday decisions to larger societal and global issues.

By prioritizing economics in our schools, we're not only preparing students for future careers, we're equipping them to be thoughtful decision-makers, engaged citizens, and problem-solvers in a rapidly changing world.

Economics is more than just a class — it's a way of thinking. It helps explain how individuals, businesses, and governments make decisions and gives young people the tools to make sense of the world around them. As we like to say here at the GCEE global headquarters: "Econ is life!"

This month is also an opportunity to honor the dedicated teachers who bring economics to life across Georgia. Their creativity and commitment inspire students to connect classroom learning with real-world issues, from local decision-making to global challenges that affect us all.

By raising awareness, we encourage parents, policymakers, and community leaders to support the continued growth of economic education. The knowledge students gain today will prepare them to become productive workers, informed consumers and savers, active citizens, and lifelong decision-makers in a globally interdependent world.

Thank you for joining us in celebrating Economic Education Month—and for supporting programs that make economics engaging, relevant, and accessible for every K-12 student in Georgia.

- The GCEE Team



### **CELEBRATING ECONOMICS**

## What's on Tap for Economic Education Month

GCEE is thrilled to present Econ Ed Month once again. This special month, now in its fifth year, is packed with innovative programs designed to help teachers and students across Georgia understand the crucial role economics plays in their lives. It's not just about learning in the classroom, but about making real-world decisions and understanding the impact of our choices.

This year's activities promise to be a unique blend of learning and fun, kicking off on October 1 with a special workshop in partnership with our friends at the Georgia Power Economic Development team. This event will highlight how they work with state and local partners to help companies locate and expand in Georgia. The plans for the month also include a virtual "Econ Trivia Night" (October 9) with our friends at Econiful, a fast-paced competition that will test and expand your economic knowledge.

Our "Pop Culture and Economics" (October 9) workshop will help teachers bring fresh energy to the classroom by linking economic concepts to music, movies, and everyday culture.

Students and educators can also participate in Georgia's first-ever Econ Ed Month door decorating contest. At the same time, "Econ Reads" classroom visits will bring GCEE staff members into schools to share engaging economic stories. Later in the month, <u>a lively webinar</u> featuring Earl & Starla (October 14) will showcase the latest adventures of everyone's favorite econ-loving cats as they decide to purchase fancy new hats at the local Hat Barn.

The GCEE team looks forward to working side by side with teachers throughout October, sharing innovative resources and fresh approaches that make economics more accessible and meaningful for students. Together, we can inspire students while building a more productive future through economic education.

Visit <u>www.gcee.org</u> to learn more about these and other opportunities during the greatest month of the year. Happy Econ Ed Month, everyone!



#### **TEACHER RECOGNITION**

## Celebrating Our 2025 Featured Teachers

In celebration of Economic Education Month, GCEE is proud to recognize three outstanding educators whose dedication to teaching economics continues to inspire both students and colleagues. These teachers exemplify the creativity, innovation, and impact that define economic

education across Georgia.

### Henry Dunston, Carver Early College High School, Atlanta (Atlanta Public Schools)



"GCEE has provided valuable resources, engaging lessons, and professional development that makes teaching economics standards relatable and student-centered. It is an honor that validates my efforts, inspires me to keep innovating, and motivates students through recognition of impactful teaching."

His recognition underscores the importance of student-centered instruction in high school economics.

## Patricia McGonagle, Midway Middle School, Midway (Liberty County Schools)



"GCEE has given me engaging resources and training that make economics easier and more accessible for my students. Being named a Featured Teacher is a meaningful honor that encourages me to keep finding ways to help my students succeed."

Her commitment highlights the power of teacher support in shaping classroom success.

## Phyllis Cone, Jefferson Parkway Elementary School, Newnan (Coweta County Schools)



"Resources like the Earl and Starla book series, as well as the Econ Games, simplify teaching econ standards and vocabulary for modern-day students. In addition to the valuable educational insights I have gained from the GCEE environment, this award is an honor. I am grateful."

Her passion shows how thoughtful tools bring economic concepts to life for young learners.

Congratulations to **Henry**, **Patricia**, and **Phyllis** — our 2025 Econ Ed Month Featured Teachers! Your dedication enriches classrooms across Georgia and advances GCEE's mission to equip educators with the tools and knowledge to foster lasting economic understanding.

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