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LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

That Teachable Moment

Thinking back on my time in the classroom, what I miss most are those moments when real world events intersected perfectly with concepts I was trying to get my students to fully comprehend. I'll never forget the day in 1999 when my students and I were discussing the positive and negative impacts of globalization while thousands of people protested a WTO meeting in Seattle. A teachable moment if there ever was one.



I've been thinking about teachable moments a lot lately as government officials, business executives, steel workers, farmers and consumers of every political stripe have suddenly been confronted with the very real possibility of trade wars erupting with long-established trading partners and increased tariffs on goods that many of us consume and sell regularly.

News reports of trade wars and tariffs also have me thinking about the day I accompanied a group of 30 teachers on a GCEE tour of the Port of Savannah's Garden City Terminal. While on the tour, we learned just how important the port is to the health of Georgia's overall economy.

As the fastest-growing and fourth-busiest container port in the United States, the Port of Savannah supports approximately 369,000 jobs throughout Georgia, while contributing more than \$2 billion in state and local taxes to Georgia's economy. Additionally, millions of Georgia-produced goods make their way to global markets through the port each year so trade wars and tariffs have the potential to be incredibly disruptive to the flow of goods at Georgia's ports.

Because Georgia's economy is so closely tied to international trade, it is critical that students

in our state fully understand the economic ramifications that potential trade wars and tariffs could have on our state's GDP, unemployment rate and business climate. Just as importantly, it is the perfect time for teachers to make the connection between what is happening in the "real world" and how it affects the lives of their students.

Now is the time to be talking to students about potential costs and benefits associated with trade wars and tariffs. It's also the time to be capitalizing on this teachable moment.

- Mike Raymer

ANNUAL MEETING

Atlanta Fed President Speaks at Annual Meeting



Raphael Bostic, President and CEO of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, was the keynote speaker at the Georgia Council's annual meeting on May 14th. Bostic, who marks one year at the Atlanta Fed in June, participated in a Q&A discussion with GCEE Executive Director Mike Raymer. Topics included tariffs and trade wars, economic mobility, labor markets and the Fed's dual mandate.

The Council also recognized **Tim Reeder** (Chattahoochee High School) and **Josh Sailors** (Woodstock High School) as its 2018 Georgia Economics Teachers of the Year, and honored longtime educator **Joy Berry** with its William J. VanLandingham Commitment to

Education Award.

TEACHER STORIES

Outstanding Teachers Doing Outstanding Things



Tim Reeder (*pictured above, left*), an economics teacher at Chattahoochee High School in Fulton County, received an interesting call from the College Board earlier in the year. Of the 150,000 students worldwide who took the AP Macroeconomics exam in spring 2017, only 60 received perfect scores. The College Board informed Tim that three of those students were from his class.

Two years ago, Josh Sailors, an economics teacher at Woodstock High School in Cherokee County, read an interesting statistic: of all the college students majoring in economics, only 27 percent were women. He decided to do something about that. In 2016, he started “Sophie’s Club: Women in Economics,” a club created for female seniors at his school to help them learn about careers related to economics.

These are just two of the reasons Tim Reeder and Josh Sailors were selected as the 2018

Georgia Economics Teachers of the Year by the Georgia Council. Neither teacher started out their careers as teachers, nor planned to teach economics. Yet both have excelled in the field and credit the Georgia Council for their success by helping them learn how to teach economics in creative and engaging ways. Learn more about [Tim Reeder](#) and [Josh Sailors](#) here.

WORKSHOPS

Come Learn With Us This Summer

Students might be out for summer, but teachers still have a chance to learn in two summer institutes being offered by the Georgia Council.

The AP Micro/Macro Summer Institute - June 11 – June 15, 2018

This week-long program will be led by Dr. Gary Stone and Gary Petmecky, both experienced AP teachers and exam readers. This workshop for high school AP teachers takes an in-depth look at special topics in both Microeconomics and Macroeconomics. The registration fee for the workshop and all materials is \$625.

International Economics Institute, Grade 6 - June 13 - 15, 2018

A three-day program addressing the teaching of: Latin America (with detailed examination of Mexico, Cuba, and Brazil); Europe (with detailed examination of Germany, Russia and the United Kingdom); and countries with British Ties (Canada, Australia, and the United States).

International Economics Institute, Grade 7 - June 25 - 27, 2018

A three-day program addressing the teaching of: Sub-Saharan Africa (with detailed examination of Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa); Middle East (with detailed examination of Israel, Turkey, Saudi Arabia); and Asia (with detailed examination of North Korea, South Korea, China, Japan, India).

There is no registration fee, but a \$75 deposit is required to confirm attendance at the 6th and/or 7th grade workshops – checks will be returned when participants arrive at each program. The \$75 deposit must be made by personal check. These programs repeat content from workshops offered during the school year and would be repetitive to previous attendees. Please print the workshop registration form and mail the completed form along with a check payable to the Georgia Council on Economic Education, P.O. Box 1619, Atlanta, GA 30301. Registration for these workshops is not complete until a refundable deposit is received.

To learn more and/or register for these summer programs, please visit our [website](#).

FOR STUDENTS

Recognizing Excellence in Economic Knowledge

While the focus at the Georgia Council is mainly on teachers, we also provide various ways for students in grades 4 – 12 to test their economic knowledge in interactive competitions throughout the school year. Here is a sample of winners from the 2017-2018 school year:

Stock Market Game – a 10-week competition in which students invest a hypothetical \$100,000

William James Middle School – Fall – winning portfolio of \$150,668

Christian Heritage School – Spring – winning portfolio of \$138,450

These teams were recognized at the Stock Market Game Awards Luncheon held on May 7, 2018, at the Fox Theatre.



William James Middle School

Heritage Christian School

InvestWrite – a companion to the Stock Market Game where students prepare a written analysis of their investments using research skills and critical analysis. Georgia had the first and third place national winners – both from Druid Hills High School in DeKalb County – in the fall competition, and the second place national winner from Shiloh Point Elementary in the spring.

Georgia Economics Challenge – held in March at the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta
 Sandy Creek High School (Fayette County) – David Ricardo Division (regular economics)
 South Forsyth High School – Adam Smith Division (AP/IB)



Sand

y Creek High School



South Forsyth High School

Personal Finance Challenge – an online competition held in March

Dunwoody High School (DeKalb County)

This team recently competed at the national finals in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Rockonomix – a competition where students change the lyrics of a song to include economic terms and then make a video for the song.

Morrow High School (Clayton County) – Fall

Milton High School (Fulton County) – Spring

Econ Games – a competition held in April in Tifton, Ga., where fourth and fifth grade students compete in three rounds: an assembly line/efficiency activity, a written test, and a problem solving activity.

Jerger Elementary (Thomasville City) - Fourth grade winner

Gray Elementary (Jones County) – Fifth grade winner



Jerger Elementary

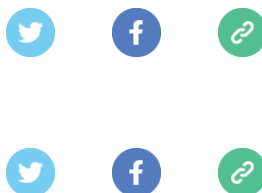


Gray Elementary

TEACHER RESOURCE

Videos to Help Explain Personal Finance

The Georgia Council on Economic Education is proud to partner with numerous like-minded organizations, businesses and foundations that share an interest in helping students live better financial lives. One such organization, the Atlanta Society of Finance and Investment Professional Foundation (ASFIP), whose mission is to improve financial literacy in the Atlanta community, recently released a series of short videos designed to help people gain a better understanding of budgeting, investing, planning for retirement, managing risk, and the importance of education. In 12 informative videos, ASFIP does a masterful job of explaining sometimes complex financial concepts very clearly. The videos, which can be viewed [here](#), contain information relevant to many of the required personal finance standards found in the Georgia Standards of Excellence. Teachers - give the videos a look and share them with your students the next time you are teaching personal finance concepts.



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THE WORD, Winter 2018

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