



Montana Financial Education Coalition

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July 2008 MFEC E-Notes



Montana Financial Education Coalition " A Jump\$tart Affiliate "

Vision Statement

Montana citizens will achieve long-term personal financial health.

Mission

The Montana Financial Education Coalition strives to improve the personal financial knowledge and decision-making ability of Montana citizens by promoting public awareness of the need for personal financial education, and by uniting and building capacity of financial education programs

Join The MFEC Listserv

By joining the listserv, you will become part of a network of organizations, businesses, and individuals committed to financial education in Montana. If you are interested in joining the listserv, please email the listserv administrator, Kelly Hart at khart@mtlsa.org, to be subscribed.

MFEC Board of Directors

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From Karen Smith, MFEC President

Welcome to the first Montana Financial Education Coalition (MFEC) **e-Notes** electronic newsletter. The MFEC e-Notes provides information on Montana financial education efforts, available resources, and current issues to the MFEC partner network.

Please spread the word and forward this first issue of e-Notes to friends and colleagues interested in financial education. If you are planning an event that MFEC partners may be interested in, have financial education resources to share or know of another nonprofit organization that our partners should be aware, just send an email to MFECNewsletter@mpls.frb.org with suggestions for future newsletter topics.

I hope this on-line newsletter becomes a useful tool for all of you.

Sincerely, Karen

Rock, Snack & Roll with Biz Kid\$

Rap music, rocking chairs, candy, and custom skateboards -- at first glance, they don't have much in common. Yet each of these represents the dreams and hard work of a Biz Kid! You'll find these business-savvy young people on the new series Biz Kid\$, airing every Saturday at 9:30am on Montana PBS. Tune in with your children and they can learn to be Biz Kids, too. [Learn more.](#)

Getting Ready for "A Step Ahead" College Prep Camp

Did you know that 70 percent of foster youths across the nation want to attend college, but fewer than 10 percent of them achieve that goal?

Nonprofit Student Assistance Foundation (SAF), with the help of its donors, is working to change that statistic through a variety of programs, including its "A Step Ahead" College Preparatory Camp. [Learn more.](#)

ABA Education Foundation Teach Children to Save Day

On April 29th, 2008, bankers all across Montana gave students some basic saving and money management lessons. Our thanks to everyone who participated in this financial education program! [Learn more.](#)

Get A Grip On Your Money

With the increasing prices of many consumer goods you may want to turn to Montana State University Extension Service for resources to help you track where your money is "really" going and how to compare the amount you are spending on food, transportation and so on with others of the same income level. [Learn more.](#)



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Beneficiary Deeds in Montana

When the 2007 Montana legislature authorized a new kind of deed for real property (homes and land), they simplified estate management for many Montanans. Now owners of real property in Montana can sign and record a beneficiary deed designating a grantee beneficiary with the clerk and recorder in the county where the real property is located. [Learn more.](#)

High School Seniors Failing Grade in Financial Literacy Survey

The average U.S. consumer is struggling in today's increasingly complex economy. We're seeing record number of homes in foreclosure. Personal savings rate in the U.S. hit a negative 1.0 percent in 2006 and continues to decline in the first part of 2008. And consumer debt is skyrocketing – exceeding \$2.5 trillion in 2007. Even more troublesome, today's high school seniors lack the basic financial skills they need to make wise financial decisions. In fact, high school seniors failed more than half of the questions in a personal finance survey conducted nationwide for the Jump\$tart Coalition® for Personal Financial Literacy. [Learn more.](#)

Spanish Version - NEFE® High School Financial Planning Program-HSFPP®

The National Endowment for Financial Education® (NEFE®) has translated its widely used High School Financial Planning Program® (HSFPP®) student guide to Spanish. It is available online for Spanish speakers and educators to use in learning or teaching about personal finances. [Learn more.](#)

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