



About the North Carolina Capitol Challenge Stock Market Game™

Since 2004, the Capitol Hill Challenge has engaged nearly 600 US Representatives and Senators with more than 15,000 students across the country. The program takes place every spring with student teams managing a hypothetical \$100,000 portfolio, investing in real stocks, bonds and mutual funds. Students utilize technology in this multi-disciplinary program to enhance math skills and focus on the importance of long-term saving and investing. At the national level for the 2011, the following participated: Senators Richard Burr and Kay Hagan, along with Representatives Walter Jones, Sue Myrick, Heath Shuler, Melvin Watt and Brad Miller. In light of the success of the program at the national level and the fact that more than 16,000 students will compete in the SMG in NC this year, the NCCEE will launch the inaugural North Carolina Capitol Challenge for the spring 2012 semester.

The Value

The NC Capitol Challenge will help keep Members of the General Assembly informed about advances that students in their home district make through the Stock Market Game (SMG), including use of technology for 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.

- Proven tool for improving comprehension of mathematic Concepts—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 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 DPI as indicated by the grant awarded to the NCCEE in the spring 2009 semester supporting Civics and Economics teachers with the SMG program.
- Proven tool for increasing teacher understanding of investment and financial planning concepts for students AND their teachers. 75% of teachers surveyed said they made financial planning decisions as a result of what they learned by utilizing the SMG with their students.

For more information contact the NCCEE: 919.791.1995