

**MIDDLE
TENNESSEE**

STATE UNIVERSITY
Center for Economic Education

TO: Robert B. Blair
FROM: Maria E. King
DATE: June 6, 2018
RE: Assistant Director Activity Summary – Fall 2017 and Spring 2018

The following activities were completed by the Assistant Director of the Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU) Center for Economic Education (CEE) during the fall 2017 and spring 2018 semester.

Workshops and In-Services. During the fall 2017 semester, the SMG regional workshops were completed via webinar rather than on-site programs. The topics for the webinars included “SMG Basics” (Kim Ware, Hutchison School; Diane Kemp, The Bright School) and “Building a Mutual Fund Using the College GPS Curriculum” (Judy Davis, Fred J. Page High School; Katherine Anderson, Providence Academy).

During the spring 2018 semester, the regional workshops were completed via webinar as well. The topics for the webinars included “SMG Basics” (Kim Ware, Hutchison School; Diane Kemp, The Bright School) and “Breaking Down the InvestWrite Prompts.” (Katherine Anderson, Providence Academy; Kim Ware, Hutchison School).

Dr. King co-presented three, 14-hour workshops during July 20-21, 2017, September 18-19, 2017, and January 26-27, 2018. The Personal Financial Literacy Education was done in partnership with the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta-Nashville Branch. The training was conducted to assist Tennessee teachers to receive the required employment qualification to teach Personal Finance (see attached documentation).

To make professional development more accessible to teachers across the state, the Dr. King in partnership with Ms. Jackie Morgan, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta - Nashville Branch and Mrs. Claire Loup, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta-New Orleans Branch offered a webinars series called “Decoding the Data.” Following is a list of dates and topics for each webinar. See attached documentation for attendees.

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October 23, 2017 – Decode the Data: Unemployment

November 14, 2017- Decode the Data: Inflation

December 4, 2017 – Decode the Data: GDP

January 29, 2018 – Decode the Date Unemployment

February 26, 2018 – Decode the Data: Inflation

During August 2-3, 2018, Dr. King co-presented with Ms. Jackie Morgan, Atlanta Federal Reserve Bank-Nashville Branch at the Metro-Nashville Public School In-Service.

On January 23, 2018, Dr. Edlin and Ms. Jackie Morgan, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta-Nashville Branch, presented “Financial Leadership” to 250 students and 22 teachers from several regional high schools attending the Region 5 Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) competition held at Middle Tennessee State University.

On February 11, 2018, Dr. King and Jackie Morgan, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta-Nashville Branch, presented in partnership with the Nissan Smyrna Vehicle Assembly Plant the workshop Made In Tennessee: Tennessee’s Role in the Automobile Industry. The workshop focused on the Tennessee economy and the impact of the manufacturing and the automotive industry, specifically Nissan North America. Twenty-one teachers participated in the program (see attached documentation).

The session included an overview of the Tennessee and national economies and manufacturing sectors presented by Mr. Troy Balthrop, Senior REIN Analyst, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta – Nashville Branch. The session also included a tour of the Nissan’s Vehicle Assembly Plant and training facility as well as a Q&A panel comprised of Nissan employees: Mr. Wayne A. Ellington, CMRP, Reliability Centered Maintenance and Mr. Kevin Smith, Manager, The program concluded with Dr. King providing educators with hands-on classroom activities and projects related to manufacturing and productivity.

The Foundation for Teaching Economics provided a grant to conduct the workshop “Economics and Business of Energy and the Environment” on February 16, 2018. Food and refreshments for the event were paid for by the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta - Nashville Branch. Mr. Don Fell and Dr. King presented content and hands-on activities related to the production of fuel and the role fuel has in the economy and the environment. Twenty-two teachers participated in the program (see attached documentation).

Dr. King conducted the webinar “Retirement Fund Basics: Understanding your 401K, 403B, and Roth IRA” on March 28 2018. Fourteen teachers participated in the session (see attached).

On April 23, 2018, Dr. King co-presented “The Economics of Gasoline with Ms. Jackie Morgan, Atlanta Federal Reserve Bank-Nashville Branch and Ms. Claire Loup, Atlanta Federal Reserve Bank-New Orleans Branch.

On May 30, 2018, fourteen teachers participated in the workshops “Hands-On Personal Finance” and “Hands-on Economics.” The program was co-facilitated by Dr. King and Mrs. Jackie Morgan, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta-Nashville Branch and gave teachers resources to teach core personal finance and economics concepts using project based and active learning strategies (see attached documentation).

Other Activities: During March 2018, Dr. King submitted all pertinent CEE data to the Records Retention Database.

Dr. King helped to evaluate and critique the Stewarts Creek High School Entrepreneurship Breakfast Challenge on April 4, 2018. The Breakfast Challenge challenges students to put the theories learned in Entrepreneurship I and Entrepreneurship II into practice.

Partnerships: Dr. King facilitates partnerships with the Foundation for Teaching Economics, the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta-Nashville Branch, the St. Louis Federal Reserve Bank, the University of Tennessee Extension Service, Austin Peay State University’s College of Business, Belmont University’s College of Business, and the Tennessee Department of Education through various projects to promote economic and personal financial literacy across Tennessee.

Professional Development: Dr. King participated in the following webinars conducted by the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta during fall 2017: Examining the Wage Growth Tracker (September 15, 2017) and Using FRED in an Advanced Economic Course (November 17, 2017).

Dr. King participated in the spring Faculty Book Group led by Dr. Barbara Draude discussing the book *Small Teaching: Everyday Lessons from the Science of Learning* by James M. Lang.

Dr. King’s article *The Heart Transplant: A Hands-on Activity to Reinforce Core Economic Concepts* was published in the February 2018 *Business Education Forum*.

Upcoming Summer Activities:

- ✓ Update the College GP\$: Goals, Problems, and Solutions Module A to more closely match the new CollegeforTN.org website
- ✓ Continue to add to the MailChimp database and set up the format for fall 2018 announcements regarding Stock Market Game and scheduled workshops and webinars
- ✓ Establish game windows for the fall 2018 and spring 2019 Stock Market Game
- ✓ Update Stock Market Game information on national access site
- ✓ Update press release templates for Stock Market Game and post to CEE website
- ✓ Conduct July 12-13, 2018, Personal Finance Training
- ✓ Explore topics for 2018-2019 workshops including The Economics of Chocolate and The Economics of the Food Industry (Cracker Barrel, Ruby Tuesday, O’Charley’s, Hardees, Logan’s Roadhouse, Captain D’s, J. Alexander’s Holdings, Inc.)