Meet a SIF Guest Speaker!

**Stocks in the Future** classrooms are regularly visited by local business and financial industry volunteers. Franklin McNeil of PNC Bank, Stephen Lo of Charles Schwab and Co., Inc., and Abe Yasser of UnderArmour are some who recently visited SIF classes. When asked what impressed him most about his visit Mr. Yasser replied, “The energy of the group – lots of great questions, and a sales pitch for a new UnderArmour-sponsored football stadium – smart kid!” Mr. McNeil, a seasoned SIF volunteer commented that he enjoyed speaking with SIF students because, “It’s very important for SIF students to understand investing, but they also have to have basic financial education as well. They need to know how to budget, the basics of handling a checking account, why it is important to save and how to control their finances so that their finances don't control them.” Mr. Lo spoke with 6th graders about the great impact of saving and spending rates, why diversification is important to manage risk, and the cost of waiting. The experience that SIF students get first hand from industry leaders is invaluable! Thank you, SIF guest speakers.

**And the Winners Are...**
The Barclay School’s 6th grade class is the winner of **Stocks in the Future**’s annual attendance contest! As a reward, the class will be taking a field trip to the Baltimore M&T headquarters of M&T Bank. The annual SIF attendance Contest is held late in the second quarter from Jan 6th - Feb 7th. Over 930 students in 35 classes and 16 schools competed for best attendance. The Barclay School’s 6th grade captured the prize with 88% perfect attendance.

**SIF Teacher Feature!**
Kristina Golden-Ventre has been teaching SIF for the last four years. When asked which SIF lesson she enjoys teaching the most she replied, “I enjoy teaching the sixth grade lesson about diversification. The idiom ‘Never put all your eggs in one basket’ and the story about what happens when all the eggs are put in one basket—available in the SIF auxiliary text “Growing Money”— do a really good job of demonstrating this concept for the students. Also, the students love to use this phrase in other language arts lessons, especially when we talk about figurative language. The great thing about **Stocks in the Future** is that the lessons can apply across the curricula.”

**Test your knowledge:**
1. A(n)___________ is a group of companies that make or provide the same kinds of services or products.
2. Companies in the same business or industry that are trying to attract the same customers are ____________.
3. What is the world’s largest stock market?
4. What is the most expensive stock today?
5. What year was the NYSE founded?

For answers to this short quiz and other financial trivia and information please visit our Facebook page today! Invite your family and friends to join Facebook so they can learn all the great things happening in our program!