



IowaCollegeAid.gov
Your Financial Aid Connection

NEWS RELEASE

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Kuemper Students to be Recognized for Financial Literacy Achievement *Students certified in over 600 core financial literacy concepts*

Carroll, IA, February 21, 2012 – Seventy-five students at Kuemper High School in Carroll, Iowa are better prepared to make smart financial decisions after successfully completing the Iowa Financial Literacy Program. An event recognizing the students' achievement will be held at the school on Friday, February 24, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. Treasurer of the State, Michael Fitzgerald, State Representative, Dan Muhlbauer, representatives from the Iowa College Student Aid Commission (Iowa College Aid) and Carroll County State Bank will speak at the event where each student will be awarded a certificate of completion. The event honoring the students is open to the public.

Kuemper High School teamed with Iowa College Aid and Carroll County State Bank to incorporate the Iowa Financial Literacy Program, developed by EverFi, Inc., into existing curricula. The online program uses the latest in new media technologies – adaptive-pathing, 3-D gaming, social networking, online animations, video, and messaging tools - to bring complex financial concepts to life. Using the Iowa Financial Literacy Program, the students have become certified in more than 600 core concepts of personal finance such as budgeting, saving, using credit cards wisely and financing higher education.

“Carroll County State Bank offers its congratulations to the students at Kuemper High School for their successful completion of the Iowa Financial Literacy Program,” said Lisa Irlbeck, vice president of Carroll County State Bank. “Financial literacy has long been an important initiative of Carroll County State Bank. Having the opportunity to better prepare students to manage their finances and provide them with real world knowledge is the reason why Carroll County State Bank is a sponsor of the Iowa Financial Literacy Program.”

Penny Miller, principal at Kuemper High School, is a strong advocate of financial literacy education. “Special thanks goes to Carroll County State Bank for making us aware of this opportunity and also to the classroom instructor, Mr. Chad Klein. This was a great opportunity for Kuemper students to integrate personal finance skills into the curriculum,” said Miller. “Part of our mission statement is to prepare students to be responsible citizens of the world and certainly financial literacy is an important indicator of success in the adult world.”

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“Financial literacy is an important but often overlooked piece of educating our young adults,” said Treasurer Fitzgerald. “While reading, writing and arithmetic are vital pieces of a solid education, it’s easy to forget that students will need more than just that when they graduate. I’m proud of the initiative Kuemper High School and its students have taken to become more financially informed, and I look forward to seeing more schools follow in their footsteps.”

“The Iowa Financial Literacy Program is part of a statewide initiative to bring financial literacy to every high school in the state,” explained Karen Misjak, executive director of Iowa College Aid. Each learning module meets the financial literacy essential concepts and skills of the Iowa Core, which must be implemented in Iowa high schools by July 1, 2012 and requires that students leave high school prepared in 21st century skills. “Through financial education we hope future generations of Iowans will be better prepared to manage their personal finances,” stated Misjak.

Free access and program support for Kuemper High School is made possible through the financial support of Iowa College Aid and Carroll County State Bank. For more information on the Iowa Financial Literacy Program and local sponsorship opportunities, please contact Iowa College Aid at 877-272-4456 or visit Iowa College Aid’s website at www.IowaCollegeAid.gov.

About the Iowa College Student Aid Commission

Iowa College Aid provides college access, financial literacy, and outreach services to Iowa’s students and families as they prepare, plan and pay for college. Iowa College Aid also administers state scholarship, grant, work study, and loan forgiveness programs totaling nearly \$60.0 million annually, administers the Federal Family Education Loan Program (FFELP), provides borrowers with assistance to avoid the serious consequences of default, conducts research and distributes higher education data, and offers Iowans assistance in obtaining student financial aid and college-related information. Through its role, Iowa College Aid also serves as the state-designated administrator of the U.S. Department of Education’s College Access Challenge Grant, which is designed to increase the college-going culture in Iowa. Additionally, Iowa College Aid is the administrator of the Federal GEARUP Grant, a multi-year, state-wide grant which is being used to provide early awareness programming and outreach initiatives to thousands of Iowa’s students and families. More information is available at www.IowaCollegeAid.gov.

About Carroll County State Bank

Carroll County State Bank is a \$350 million locally owned bank that has been in the Carroll community since 1870. Carroll County State Bank offers a complete array of banking and financial services thru their full service branches located in Carroll, Council Bluffs, Coon Rapids and Arcadia, Iowa. Carroll County State Bank is a wholly owned subsidiary of Carroll County Bancshares along with the affiliated Citizen’s State Bank of Fort Dodge & Pocahontas and Community Bank which serves the Nevada & Holstein, Iowa communities. Our company’s guiding principle has been to promote the prosperity of the communities we serve. Carroll County State Bank believes in partnerships with our local schools and is committed to improving the financial literacy of our youth. More information is available at www.carrollia.com.

About EverFi *EverFi is building and operating the nation’s largest network for K-12 online education in off-curriculum, but highly valuable content areas such as financial literacy, student loan management and other key life skills for the 21st century student. EverFi’s award-winning platform is designed to provide a highly engaging experience for students and features the latest technology and instructional design, including rich media, high-definition video, 3D simulations and social networking. EverFi is powering a national movement that enables corporations and foundations to partner with schools and colleges in our network and license the use of the EverFi platform to deliver a measurable and lifelong impact on students. EverFi’s website is www.everfi.com*

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