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State Treasurer Curtis Loftis recognizes 36 educators in SC Financial Literacy Master Teacher Program

COLUMBIA, S.C. (June 15, 2020) – South Carolina Treasurer Curtis Loftis is pleased to recognize the first cohort of 36 educators who have qualified to become South Carolina Financial Literacy Master Teachers. Launched in January of this year, the new statewide initiative is designed to increase the number of teachers incorporating personal finance education into their classrooms.

"We congratulate these wonderful educators for their commitment to promoting financial literacy. They share a passion that is important to conveying these vital life skills to students in their classrooms and to fellow teachers as they lead professional development workshops," Treasurer Loftis said. "We applaud their efforts, especially given the challenges of the current school year, and we look forward to seeing their continued growth and progress in the years to come."

Sponsored by <u>Future Scholar</u>, South Carolina's 529 College Savings Plan, and in partnership with <u>SC Economics</u>, the <u>South Carolina Financial Literacy Master Teacher Program</u> provides financial incentives to K-12 teachers who are experts in the area of financial literacy and have a desire to teach professional development workshops to other educators in their schools and districts. In addition, participating teachers have access to specialized training and financial literacy curriculum resources that will better enable them to promote financial literacy education in K-12 schools.

In order to become a South Carolina Financial Literacy Master Teacher, all applicants must complete specific professional development classes. In addition, they must create and teach professional development training. Applicants then must pass the W!SE Personal Finance Certification Test for Educators. W!SE is a nationally recognized credential, certifying that educators demonstrate the proficiency required to teach personal finance.

The program recently completed accepting applications for its next group of teachers and will begin registration for the third cohort in January of 2021. To learn more, visit the SCFLMT website: scflmt.org.

About Future Scholar

Future Scholar, South Carolina's 529 College Savings Plan, is administered by the Office of State Treasurer Curtis Loftis. For more information, visit FutureScholar.com or follow @SCStateTreasurer on Facebook. No state funds are used to market Future Scholar or the South Carolina Financial Literacy Master Teacher Program.

Inaugural Class of South Carolina Financial Literacy Master Teachers

First Name	Last Name	School	District
Zachary	Arms	Liberty High School	Pickens
Tamikah	Battle	Manning Correctional Institute High School	Palmetto Unified School District
Stephen	Bidwell	Bridge Creek Elementary	Richland 2
Ashley	Bowers	Ashley Ridge High School	Dorchester 2
Monica	Brisbon	Carolina Forest High	Horry
Pam	Bruney	Kelly Mill Med Pro Middle	Richland 2
Tammi	Campbell	Airport High School	Lexington 2
Leslie	Carmel-Porras	Hillcrest High School	Greenville
Lexie	Centers	Gregg Middle School	Dorchester 2
William	Chappell	HCS Early College High School	Horry
Sabrina	Cheek	Fairfield Central High School	Fairfield
Randy	Clark	Lugoff-Elgin High School	Kershaw
Michelle	Cummings	West Florence High School	Florence 1
Andrea	Dickey	Blythewood Academy	Richland 2
Eric	Fry	Academy for Technology and Academics	Horry
Denise	Gartrell	Saluda Middle School	Saluda
Megan	Hanna	Heath Springs Elementary	Lancaster
Denise	Harrel	Givhans Alternative	Dorchester 2
Harmonica	Hart	Summit Parkway Middle School	Richland 2
David	Hymson	Anderson 5 Charter School	Anderson 5
Meghan	James	Mason Preparatory School	Independent

Kristine Lyon Ridge View High School Richland 2 Erika Beaufort Marshall **Beaufort High School** Sarah Ostergaard Irmo High School Lexington Richland 5 Pleasant Knoll Middle School Stephanie Pecarro Fort Mill Gary Purinton Spartanburg High School Spartanburg 7 Laura Reeder Pine Grove Elementary Richland 1 Shannon Rister W.A. Perry Middle School Richland 1 Bradley Robinson Greenville Tech Charter High School SC Public Charter School District Charleston Alvalene Rogers Wando High School Yolanda Fairfield Career & Technology Center Fairfield Singleton Desiree Smith Alcorn Middle School Richland 1 Richland 1 Karin Springfield AC Flora High School Kurt Stiglbauer Ridge View High School Richland 2 Terri Vick-Phillips White Knoll High School Lexington 1 Mullins High School Rick Weir Marion

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