



Foundation for Free Enterprise

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For Release:

Immediate
October 4, 2011

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FOUNDATION FOR FREE ENTERPRISE BRINGS PRACTICAL BUSINESS EXPERIENCES FOR CHILDREN INTO SCHOOLS

Leading Business Owner Joseph Sanzari Teaches in Bergen Classroom

East Rutherford, Oct. 4 – The Foundation for Free Enterprise (FFE) brought its World of Free Enterprise academic program to 7th and 8th grade students today at East Rutherford’s Alfred S Faust school. The class was led by Bergen entrepreneur Joseph M. Sanzari, one of New Jersey’s largest construction contractors, and Kathryn English, CEO of FFE.

The students learned about the benefits of free enterprise to help develop an economic way of thinking regardless of their career path.

Today’s class was instructed to set up a “board of directors,” elect officers, create businesses, do market research about the need/competition of the product, identify their market, develop a marketing plan, work up a detailed budget and spread sheet projections. They in turn make their presentations of their “loan/financing proposal” to a “bank” committee. The students are developing a business plan for a new toy company. They must present their new toy and business plan to a group of judges.

This is the second year FFE has worked with the career education class taught by Mrs. Mercedes Fox. Last year, students designed a unique toy, created a marketing plan and designed a factory. The students then presented their business plan to teachers, students, parents and business owners. The team that was deemed to have the most unique idea and most viable business plan received trophies.

“I love teaching students about the importance of running a business,” Sanzari said. “It opens their minds the new opportunities that I wish I had in school.”

Mrs. Mercedes Fox, Career Education Teacher at Faust had this to say about the program, “this project has been an amazing way to guide students to learn about the world of business and to learn to work cooperatively, utilize their math, language arts, and creative skills to generate and present their toy and company. The end result of the project is a great accomplishment for all the students and teachers involved. We at Alfred S. Faust in East Rutherford are very excited to be part of this remarkable experience.”

“We have carefully developed a wide array of educational programs designed to educate our youth in the values of the American free enterprise system. By educating young people and others who will influence the future concerning free market economics, we help preserve the entrepreneurial spirit which made our country great. We offer these programs free of charge so everyone has the opportunity to participate,” stated English.

Over 30 schools will participate in the FFE program this year, including an anticipated 20 from Bergen and Passaic counties. Last school year, 33 schools brought FFE into the classroom where more than 600 students participated.

The FFFE was established in 1975 as the educational arm of Commerce and Industry Association of New Jersey. The FFFE was established so future leaders could understand and value the free enterprise system and contribute to the defense and promotion of the economic system that made America a prosperous nation. The program is helped funded through an annual fundraiser hosted by Sanzari. Over \$50,000 was recently raised to fund this year's program.

Other programs FFFE offers for students include:

Summer Business Camp

The Summer Business Camp (SBC) is intended for students who will become leaders in their careers and communities. They will gain valuable insight into the core of economic principles that affect American business. By participating, these young men and women will be better prepared to offer meaningful solutions to the problems facing their businesses, organizations and communities.

The experiences of leading economists and accomplished executives are conveyed through a dynamic lecture/discussion format. Students will explore issues such as: How the Market Works, Profit and Loss, Competition, Inflation, Comparative Economic Systems, International Trade – Global Opportunities, Leadership – Ethical Business Decision making, Entrepreneurship and other significant issues.

SBC is limited to 100 students and is offered free of charge to all students. The students stay in the dorms at Ramapo College for 5 days.

B. Franklin Reinauer II Essay Contest where the winner receives

- A FOUR YEAR SCHOLARSHIP TO RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY
(subject to meeting acceptance requirements, award not to exceed \$11,416 (or billable charges, whichever is less) per academic year for four continuous years provided the student maintains the eligibility requirements.) Donated by Ramapo College of NJ
- A Check for \$500.00 presented at the FFFE Annual Luncheon
- Recognition of Essay in COMMERCE magazine
- An Engraved Trophy

FFFE continues to influence future leaders by effectively teaching thousands of students and teachers each year about the vital role free enterprise plays in peoples' lives. The success of FFFE is built largely upon the ability to work at the confluence of the education and business worlds. As FFFE builds educational alliances with teachers throughout the region, an ever-increasing number of them come to know the FFFE and the value of enrolling their students in our programs.