



## March Update 2014

*Stocks in the Future (SIF) teaches middle school students financial life skills while providing them incentives to improve their school performance.*



### Meet a SIF Guest Speaker!



Franklin McNeil of PNC Bank



Stephen Lo of Charles Schwab & Co., Inc.



Abe Yasser of Under Armour

**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 Under Armour 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 Under Armour-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 6<sup>th</sup> 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 MD headquarters of M&T Bank. The annual **SIF** attendance Contest is held late in the second quarter from Jan 6<sup>th</sup> - Feb 7<sup>th</sup>. Over 930 students in 35 classes and 16 schools competed for best attendance. The Barclay School’s 6<sup>th</sup> grade captured the prize with 88% perfect attendance.



CONGRATULATIONS



### 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!

