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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
EXTENSION

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National study finds NEFE's
High School Financial Planning Program
curriculum effective and highly-regarded

*Foundation, U of M offer webinar series based on HSFPP
to improve the effectiveness of teaching financial literacy*

DENVER, Colo. and ST. PAUL, Minn. – Last month, the National Endowment for Financial Education® (NEFE) released a national study and evaluation of its acclaimed High School Financial Planning Program® (HSFPP) curriculum. This research, conducted by the University of Minnesota, examined students' learning, behavior and confidence before and after their engagement with the HSFPP curriculum.

“Data from the study shows that students who completed the HSFPP reported significant improvement in their financial knowledge, behaviors and confidence both immediately after as well as three months after completing the HSFPP,” the study says.

A nationally-renowned curriculum designed to teach teenagers about personal finance and money management, NEFE has provided the HSFPP for nearly 30 years. The free, seven-unit financial education curriculum contains a variety of exercises and activities that focus on personal finance fundamentals.

This curriculum is underwritten by America's Credit Unions.

In the fall of 2011, University of Minnesota Extension – in conjunction with the Minnesota Credit Union Foundation – hosted a series of train-the-trainer webinars to help make financial education efforts more effective. Entitled “[Connecting the Dots: Financial Education...Financial Capability](#),” the purpose of this webinar series is to increase educators' knowledge and competency in financial topics, making them better-equipped to teach these subjects and improve the financial management skills of young adults.

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(more)

“Studies show that teachers are not confident in their knowledge and competency in financial topics,” said Patricia Olson, UMES Associate Director, Extension Center for Family Development. “Our goal is to reach teachers with the NEFE High School Financial Planning Program curriculum and to provide additional content to help teachers feel confident in this extremely critical – but often intimidating – subject.”

The webinars, which are archived and available free of charge:

- explore the science of teaching,
- discuss the influences that poverty and culture have on financial capability, and
- contain training tips and information from the HSFPP.

Each session is two hours long and helps teachers make financial education relevant for students in their daily lives, while demonstrating the importance of making wise financial decisions.

“As an organization committed to financial education, the Minnesota Credit Union Foundation is proud to partner with the University of Minnesota Extension to provide these resources for teachers,” said MnCUF Chair Pat Brekken. “Helping to ensuring that future generations are knowledgeable in the fundamentals of personal finance is vital, and is a universal goal for credit unions throughout the state.”

The Minnesota Credit Union Foundation, dedicated to providing the resources for credit unions and communities to prosper and thrive, is the primary financial sponsor of the webinar series. Archives can be downloaded online at www.mncufoundation.org/webinars.

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*The **Minnesota Credit Union Foundation** is an organization dedicated to providing the resources for credit unions and communities to prosper and thrive. Founded in 1969 to serve as a charitable arm of the Minnesota credit union movement, the Foundation has helped many credit unions with limited resources to grow and prosper and reach underserved communities. For more information, visit www.mncufoundation.org.*

*The **University of Minnesota Extension** is dedicated to making a difference by connecting community needs and University resources to address critical issues in Minnesota. For more information, visit www.extension.umn.edu.*

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