



Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions

Kathy Blumenfeld, Secretary

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

Carolyn Stanford Taylor, State Superintendent



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

July 31, 2020

DFI, DPI Announce More Than \$140,000 in Financial Literacy Grants Awarded to Wisconsin Schools

MADISON, Wis. – The [Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions \(DFI\)](#) and the [Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction \(DPI\)](#) today announced 10 grants totaling more than \$140,000 have been awarded to schools across Wisconsin to enhance personal finance education. Grant recipients were selected out of a field of 28 applicants by the [Governor’s Council on Financial Literacy](#).

“These grants will help thousands of students broaden their personal financial knowledge and become better prepared to make sound financial decisions as adults,” said DFI Secretary Kathy Blumenfeld. “Financial literacy is an important life skill that helps students take control of their financial future. This program reinforces our continued commitment to educating Wisconsin’s K-12 students about personal financial matters.”

Funded by DFI, the [Financial Literacy Innovation Grant Program](#) was open to Wisconsin’s K-12 public and private schools and is a collaborative effort between the Governor’s Council on Financial Literacy, DFI, and DPI. The grants are designed to help teachers adopt and implement Wisconsin’s standards on personal financial literacy in their classrooms and in partnership with their communities.

State Superintendent Carolyn Stanford Taylor adopted [new personal financial literacy standards](#) earlier this year. The standards are intended to help schools and educators at all grade levels to develop programs that provide the knowledge and skills to establish sound financial habits.

“Thank you to our educators for taking the time to craft applications aimed at helping their students learn financial literacy,” Stanford Taylor said. “This collaborative grant program is yet another resource and benefit to educators looking to implement essential financial courses into their programming aligned with the new state standards.”

DPI conducted the initial review of the 28 applicants from throughout the state, and then the Governor’s Council on Financial Literacy made the final recommendations. The grant program is designed to support the efforts of individual teachers and school districts to begin innovative and sustainable financial literacy programs and events, with a specific emphasis on student loan debt.

The following school districts and local education agencies are receiving grants:

- Beloit School District – \$10,000
- CESA 3 – \$29,229
- CESA 11 – \$30,000
- Chippewa Falls Area Unified School District – \$10,000
- Lake Geneva Jt 1 School District – \$2,675

- Milwaukee Public Schools – \$30,000
- Rib Lake School District – \$10,000
- Southern Door County School District – \$10,000
- Stratford School District – \$2,102
- Twin Lakes #4 School District –\$9,000

TOTAL AWARDED: \$143,006

Funding for the grant program was provided by DFI through settlement dollars designated for financial literacy education.

In addition, a national non-profit, Next Gen Personal Finance, also offered educators grant money to elevate personal finance education. The Next Gen Personal Finance (NGPF) Gold Standard Challenge provides \$10,000 grants to high schools committed to ensuring that all students receive one semester of personal finance education prior to graduation. As a result, Milwaukee Public Schools will receive an additional \$30,000. Learn more at: www.ngpf.org/goldstandardchallenge.

For more information on the Financial Literacy Innovation Grant Program, contact David Mancl, Director of the Office of Financial Literacy, at david.mancl@wisconsin.gov or 608-261-9540.

###

Contact: DFICommunications@dfi.wisconsin.gov or Media.Inquiries@dpi.wi.gov