

PENNSYLVANIA FREE ENTERPRISE WEEK – *It's Never Been More Important*

PFEW 2022 was eye opening in many ways, but it was perhaps the most *powerful* and *needed* program in our 44-year history. Powerful because PFEW once again delivered the world class business education you've come to expect. Needed because of the things we witnessed, specifically the increased

anxiety, uncertainty, fear, even loss of hope. It was beyond description. The isolation, the learning gap, the uncertainty of their future, the lack of personal connection over the last few years – it all came out in Williamsport. So we asked our Company Advisors to be even more present, to watch for signs, to

get more involved, basically do anything they could to help a struggling student. Thankfully, it paid off.

It especially paid off for Dakota. Here's his story -- one of hundreds we heard, stories of transformation and discovery, learning and belonging, stories that make PFEW ***more important than ever...***

"I have only recently got my life somewhat together. My life has been very lonely since I was 9. After my dad died when I was 13, things got worse. I now live with my coworker's family and I am very happy where I am now. Thank you for sponsoring me at Pennsylvania Free Enterprise Week! This experience is burned into my heart, as I (now) have team, business and leadership skills. I also made some great friends who I would consider family. I have met the most excellent speakers. They have inspired me a lot and I related to a lot of the stories that I heard.



This is Dakota's team, a team that challenged him, changed him, a team he now calls family... Company Advisor Anthony Bennett is pictured back row, far left.

If I had to give an honest opinion, my team has been the best team overall. Whether we won or not, we are winners. We have supported each other to the fullest extent. The only loss that we have received is the fact that our team has to separate.

I'm excited to go home, but at the same time I wish I had more time with everyone. Every time I think about our team's separation, my heart aches. My experience was very unique because I have never felt so alive until this week. I encourage you to continue sponsoring students and PFEW. It has changed me as a whole. My Company Advisor Anthony is the best and should be commended for inspiring me as our team has inspired him. He was positive and believed in our ideas. Thank you for everything."

Yes, PFEW is *first and foremost* the champion of business and free enterprise, giving our students the knowledge and skills that make them great leaders. But as you can see, it's so much more. **That's** why PFEW is needed more than ever. We hope you'll join us this year.

The Stock Market Game Sets Records!

As we reported in November, the Fall Competitive Session of The Stock Market Game set a record with an incredible 4,084 participants, up 14% from this time last year! Trading for the Spring Competitive Session kicks off February 6th, and we expect over 4,000 more students to play in this session alone.

Here are the winners from the Fall session!

REGION	AGE GROUP	SCHOOL	ADVISOR
East	Elementary	Oak Ridge Elementary ¹	Stacy Zanine
East	Middle	Roberto Clemente Charter	Scott Valentine
East	High School	Muhlenberg HS	Dea Bassetti
Central	Elementary	Union Canal Elementary	Jeff Zelinske
Central	Middle	Our Mother of Perpetual Help	Ann DiNovis
Central	High School	Manheim Township HS ¹	Julie Frey
West	Elementary	James W Parker MS	Bill Frick
West	Middle	Pine-Richland MS ¹	Kathy Deal
West	High School	Carlynton JSHS ²	Ryan Gevaudan

1 – First in Pennsylvania 2 – Second in Pennsylvania



Congratulations to Advisor Kathy Deal and her SMG team from Pine-Richland Middle School who placed first overall in the state among all regions and age groups for the Fall Competitive Session. In just 12 short weeks, they turned their initial \$100,000 investment into \$140,855.44, beating the S&P 500 by a whopping 30.6%!

Pictured here is the winning team (l to r): Cameron Wincko, Max Kohser



New Speaker Series Module is a Hit!

There's a brand-new Speaker Series module featuring local opportunities for students. This great new resource helps students explore career, education and professional development opportunities offered by our terrific chamber and business association partners across the state. It's designed to enhance the value of the PFEW experience and provide a direct link between our students and their local businesses. Working together, we can create PA's next great workforce.

The module highlights:

- Leadership programs
- Workforce development/ career exploration opportunities
- Job shadowing
- Apprenticeships
- Scholarships
- Internships
- Job training programs
- Employment opportunities
- Skills development
- And more...

It's not only for PFEW graduates – it's for anyone looking for local opportunities! Check it out today at www.pfew.org/speaker-series/regional-programs. We're proud to work with our chamber and association partners to connect students to education, training, careers and professional growth resources available in PA.

My Commitment

You can play an important role in a young person's successful future by enclosing your 501(c)(3) tax deductible contribution today. FFEE is an approved Educational Improvement Organization (EIO) in the EITC Program. Please make your check payable to: **Foundation for Free Enterprise Education**

- ☐ Founder's Club – \$25,000+
- ☐ President's Club – \$15,000 - \$24,999
- ☐ Keystone Club – \$10,000 - \$14,999
- ☐ Student Champion – \$5,000 - \$9,999
- ☐ Student Patron – \$1,500 - \$4,999

A gift of \$695 will provide a sponsorship for a student to attend PFEW

I would like to make a gift of \$ _____

Please designate my gift to:

- ☐ All programming
- ☐ PFEW & Speaker Series
- ☐ The Stock Market Game™
- ☐ I would be interested in monthly giving. Please contact me.

Name _____

Title _____

Company Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

County _____ Telephone No. _____

Email _____

- ☐ I will sponsor students in areas of greatest need.
- ☐ I would like to sponsor students from the following counties: _____
- ☐ Check Enclosed (**Payable to FFEE**)
- ☐ Invoice me on: _____ (date)

PENNSYLVANIA FREE ENTERPRISE WEEK

PFEW 2023 is Right Around the Corner...

You're thinking, "Wait, PFEW isn't until July", and you're right, but these next six months will fly by as we attend to the million details needed to run a successful program. Here are your latest updates.

Fundraising

Our second fundraising letters are in the mail and our annual outreach to the PA business community has begun thanks to our wonderful statewide chamber and association partners.

**If you've already provided a gift to a student this year,
THANK YOU!**

If you have yet to make a pledge or a gift, we encourage you to fill out the coupon in this newsletter and mail your pledge or gift today, or make a gift online at www.pfew.org.

A New Way to Give!

We've updated our online giving portal to include an option for recurring monthly giving. It's a great way to spread your gift over time, and the best part is, your entire gift goes to PFEW sponsorships or SMG team sponsorships, whatever you choose! If you're interested in monthly giving, simply visit www.pfew.org and click the Donate button in the upper right corner. It's safe, it's easy, and it's the perfect way to provide world class education with lasting impact.

Student Recruiting

On January 4th, FFEE VP of Educational Relations Michelle Warofka embarked on her annual quest to recruit students for this summer's PFEW program. We'll need over 3,000 applications to fill the 1,650 available slots, and Michelle is planning on making over 700 presentations at nearly 200 schools statewide. Helping Michelle blanket the state are PFEW Company Advisors and part-time Student Recruiters Nate Cooper, Dave Sawtelle, Sid Schechter and Ken Snyder.

If you know any high school sophomores or juniors in PA, have them sign up today at www.pfew.org. There's simply nothing better for our future than a PFEW education!

FFEE Board Welcomes New Director!

At their November 2022 annual meeting, the Foundation for Free Enterprise Education Board of Directors welcomed Mark J. Pietrusinski of Erie as a new Director. Mark recently retired from Lord Corporation in Erie and has a long history with PFEW. His two children, Elaine and Dan, are PFEW graduates, Dan has served as a Company Advisor and Mark is a 10-year PFEW Company Advisor. Says Mark, *"As a PFEW Company Advisor, I've gotten to meet the kind of young people we just don't hear about enough... motivated, curious, smart, invested in learning and in making the world a better place. The experience they get in their PFEW week builds the confidence and desire to go boldly after a great future in business. As a member of the Board of Directors, I look forward to helping shape this important work!"*



Here's Mark accepting his board plaque on a recent visit to the FFEE offices. From l to r, Scott, Karen, Mark, and Michelle.

FFEE in the Neighborhood

Last October, Karen and Scott attended the Pennsylvania Association of Chamber Professionals (PACP) annual conference in Gettysburg where PFEW 2022 graduate Kaiden Miller from Delone Catholic High School in Adams County regaled everyone with his exciting and powerful PFEW journey. Pictured here (l to r) are FFEE Board Member and President & CEO of the Blair County Chamber of Commerce, Joe Hurd; FFEE Board Member



and President & CEO of the West Shore Chamber of Commerce, George Book, Jr.; Kaiden, and FFEE President & CEO Karen Musante.

For 21 years, Huntington National Bank has provided over 573 PFEW sponsorships through PA's Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) program. Huntington's Regional Marketing Manager Trish Cawley (r) presented Karen with their 2022 EITC contribution in Pittsburgh last December. This gift will help over 28 young men and women in Huntington's service area experience the wonders of business, discover careers and become leaders at PFEW 2023. Profound thanks to Trish and all the wonderful folks at Huntington for their more than two decades of service to PA's youth.



FOUNDATION FOR FREE ENTERPRISE EDUCATION

excellence in learning

proud presenter of
Pennsylvania Free Enterprise Week
The Stock Market Game™
Speaker Series

3076 West 12th Street
Erie, Pennsylvania 16505-3857

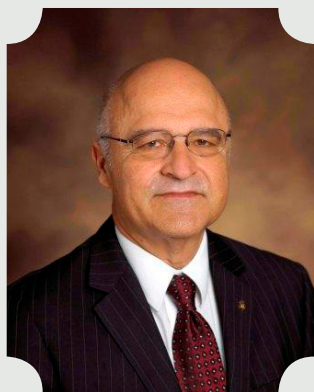
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PFEW Needs Volunteers

We need **Company Advisors** and
Stockholders Competition Judges for
PFEW 2023. Join incredible folks like these and
make a lasting impact on the next generation.
Sign up today at www.pfew.org.



The Passing of a Legend

It is with heavy hearts that we inform you of the passing of Dr. Vincent Matteo. Vince was our current Foundation Board Chair and would have celebrated 25 years of service this year. He came to us from the chamber community where he most recently served as President & CEO of the Williamsport/Lycoming Chamber. No words can adequately describe the impact Vince had on our Foundation. He led with a steady hand, a warm heart and an abundance of care and compassion.

We have set up a memorial fund in his honor here at the Foundation and we're planning additional ways to honor his loyal and dedicated service to us and the youth of Pennsylvania. There was no one more passionate about our mission than Vince, and his legacy will live on.

We will continue on as he would want us to, but we will do so with heavy hearts and tears in our eyes. Tell someone you love them today, because tomorrow is not guaranteed. Godspeed, Vince, and thank you.