

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Nebraska Teachers Earn National Certification in Personal Finance**

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**Contacts:**

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Wayne State College rolled out the red carpet for 28 Nebraska secondary and post-secondary teachers attending the 2012 Personal Finance Institute July 24-26. The goal of the Institute is to better prepare educators who teach personal finance. Participants earned college graduate credit for their work in developing or revising an existing Personal Finance course for implementation at their high school or community college. At the conclusion of the Institute all of the teachers successfully passed the nationally recognized Financial Literacy Certification Exam entitled W!SE (Working in Support of Education).

In addition to intense classroom instruction, participants heard from guest financial speakers and experienced successful local entrepreneurial endeavors as they toured Heritage Industries and Heritage Homes.

*“Thanks so much for all the work involved and all the information and materials we received to add to our school Personal Finance resources plus our human resources! I enjoyed learning with all the positive encouragement and the change to get to know other business educators in the area too.”* said one participating teacher when asked about the 2012 Institute.

Teachers attending received graduate credit from either the University of NE-Lincoln or Wayne State College. Dr. Tammie Fischer (UNL) and Dr. Patricia Arneson (WSC) joined Dr. Sherry Roberts from Middle Tennessee State and Dr. Mike Casey from the University of Central Arkansas as Institute instructors. Guest speakers included Rhonda Heineman, CFP, of Heineman Financial Strategies of Omaha; David Wilhelm, finance instructor for the Academy of Finance at Metropolitan Community College, Omaha; and representatives from the Federal Reserve Banks of Omaha and Kansas City.

Sponsors that made the Institute possible included Partnerships for Innovation, Nebraska Council on Economic Education, Centris Federal Credit Union, and the Nebraska Department of Education.

**Participating teachers and schools included:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>County</b>
Annette Rasmussen	Wayne High School	Wayne, NE	Wayne
Berva Arensdorf	Mid-Plains Community College	North Platte, NE	Lincoln
Betty Shanle	Twin River Public School	Genoa, NE	Nance
Brittany Davidson	Central City High School	Central City, NE	Merrick
Carol Andringa	Lincoln Public Schools	Lincoln, NE	Lancaster
Christina Carothers	South Sioux City High School	South Sioux City, NE	Dakota
Cindy Dahlquist	Oakland-Craig Public Schools	Oakland, NE	Burt
Cynthia Elliott	North Platte High School	North Platte	Lincoln

Dani Fusco	Pound Middle School	Lincoln, NE	Lancaster
Deb Wolken	Lincoln Northeast High School	Lincoln, NE	Lancaster
Doug Miller	Lincoln Southeast High Schools	Lincoln, NE	Lancaster
Gary Stubbs	Kearney High School	Kearney, NE	Buffalo
Jacquelyn Garrison	Pleasanton Public School	Pleasanton, NE	Buffalo
Jan Osborn	Sargent High School	Sargent, NE	Custer
Jim Jennings	Platteview High School	Springfield, NE	Sarpy
Josh Hinrichs	Lincoln Southwest High School	Lincoln, NE	Lancaster
Julie Hippen	Lincoln Southeast High School	Lincoln, NE	Lancaster
Kate Carlson	Douglas County West High School	Valley, NE	Douglas
Kathleen Reiter	Southeast Community College	Milford, NE	Seward
Kenneth Newcomb	Wayne State College	Wayne, NE	Wayne
Laura Newton	Central Catholic High School	West Point, NE	Cuming
Leah McClure	Centennial High School	Utica, NE	Seward
Lori Leudtke	Park Middle School	Lincoln, NE	Lancaster
Pam Sutton	Lincoln Christian School	Lincoln, NE	Lancaster
Robin Kratina	Bellevue West High School	Bellevue, NE	Sarpy
Sandy O'Neil	Chase County Schools	Imperial, NE	Chase
Taffy Lewis	Southern Valley Schools	Oxford, NE	Harlan
Teresa Starks	Platteview High School	Springfield, NE	Sarpy

Pictured in photo from top to bottom and left to right:

Top row: Pat Arneson, Janay Turner (FL), Jennifer Davidson, Cynthia Elliott

2<sup>nd</sup> row: Ken Newcomb, Sherry Roberts, Leah McClure

3<sup>rd</sup> row: Sandy O'Neil and Berva Arensdorf

4<sup>th</sup> row: Cindy Dahlquist, Theresa Starks, Brittney Davidson

5<sup>th</sup> row: Robin Kratina, Jacqueline Garrison, Gary Stubbs, Pam Sutton

6<sup>th</sup> row: Jan Osborn and Christina Carothers

7<sup>th</sup> row: Kate Carlson, Laura Newton, Mike Casey, Annette Rasmussen

8<sup>th</sup> row: Kathleen Reiter, Carol Andringa, Josh Hinrichs, Jim Jennings

9<sup>th</sup> row: Taffy Lewis, Dani Fusco, Julie Hippen, Lori Leudtke

Front row: Deb Wolken and Doug Miller