

The Stock Market Game™

Letter to Parents



Dear Parent / Guardian:

This semester our class is participating in The Stock Market Game™, an educational simulation of "real world" stock market trading sponsored by the Illinois Council on Economic Education. The SMG Program is supported by curriculum and is designed to enhance student skills in math, social studies and language arts, as well as computer skills. Because the students manage their stock portfolio in teams, they are learning decision-making and gaining cooperative learning skills.

The SMG Program facilitates student learning about securities markets and their role in the American economic system. It broadens knowledge of terms heard daily - "Wall Street", "stock exchange", "Dow Jones Industrial Average", etc. The program also increases awareness of current events and how those events affect our economy.

How can you help? Encourage your child to share what is being discussed in the classroom. Be sure your child has access to TV news programs, newspapers, and other current event publications. The class's enrollment in the SMG will include delivery of newspapers, if in that paper's delivery area – as part of our school's SMG participation.

Initiate discussions on current events and ask how the team's stocks are doing or what stocks are being considered, and why. If you aren't familiar with the financial pages in the newspaper, ask your child for a lesson on how to read them. If your child indicates some helpful web sites for stock information and research, ask them to show you!

If you would like to visit the main SMG Web page to learn more about this educational program, go to <http://stockmarketgame.org>. Click "See How It Works" / "Take a Tour" / "Easy to Use" to actually see how the online portfolio works.

And if your daily paper disappears before everyone is finished reading it, don't be upset! You'll find that it is being put to good use!