



NEWS RELEASE

MHS STUDENTS TAKE 3RD PLACE IN FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF NEW YORK'S HIGH SCHOOL ECONOMICS COMPETITION

MAMARONECK, NY, April 21, 2017 – A team of Mamaroneck High School (MHS) students advanced yesterday to the Final Four in The Federal Reserve Bank of New York's Fed Challenge, a multi-level competition designed to bring real-world macroeconomic policy into the classroom. The MHS team -- consisting of Courtney Sawyer, Evan Kreinces, Alex Alma, Emily Renner, Sophia Danziger, Mark Adamo and alternate Stephen Rothman -- played the role of monetary policymakers by analyzing economic conditions and recommending a course for monetary policy to a panel of judges that includes New York Fed economists and other experts.

In presenting their views on the current state of the economy, future expectations and interest rate guidance, MHS students competed against other high school teams from all over New York, Northern New Jersey and Fairfield County and were among 13 teams moving on to the Semifinal round yesterday. In the semifinals, students presented a 12 minute presentation on their recommendation and forecast for the economy. They then advanced to the finals where they were asked rapid-fire current monetary policy questions in a 20 minute Q&A with members of the Fed.

Lauren Albert, who teaches MHS's AP Macroeconomics program is in her first year teaching this class. About the experience she said, "The most valuable part of doing the Fed Challenge is watching students get excited about learning the curriculum in an authentic way. The Challenge allows them to connect everything they have learned in class to the wider world."

Ms. Albert had 15 teams in her AP class that researched and prepared an in-class presentation, followed by a Q&A session. The best team was then selected to compete in the Fed Challenge; the team put in countless hours preparing for the competition. She said, "My team was excited to compete for the experience alone so to have advanced to the finals is a huge honor. Most high schools that compete have four year clubs, in which students gain exposure to monetary policy for many years before they present. My students worked long hours and put their presentation together in a month and a half. They performed exceptionally well and I am proud of all of the work and dedication they put in."

The Fed Challenge is closely aligned with the Federal Reserve Bank's goals of increasing understanding of the Reserve's role in setting U.S. monetary policy; developing students' research, cooperation, presentation and critical thinking skills; promoting interest in economics,

not only as a subject for undergraduate and postgraduate study, but as the basis for a career, and fostering a closer relationship between schools and the New York Fed.

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