

### January 23, 2015 – Staunton City Schools Tip Sheet

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### Lee Students Excel in the Stock Market Game

(STAUNTON, VA – January 23, 2015) Robert E. Lee High School’s Stock Market Game team finished among the top three at the regional high school division competition. Each semester, the students in Ms. Sellers’ economics and personal finance class at Robert E. Lee High School participate in the Stock Market Game, hosted by the JMU Center for Economic Education. The fall game began on September 22 and ran through December 12, 2014. Each day the rankings for the region, based on current value of the teams’ portfolios, were posted on the website and shared with the students. Members of Lee’s winning team were Miriam Tareq, Djanira Nickleberry and John Sheffer.

The Stock Market Game is a simulation where each team has \$100,000 of virtual money to invest in stocks, mutual funds and bonds with the goal of making more money than the other teams in the competition. The game is used to help students build a fundamental understanding of investing while providing them with real world skills practice in math, language arts, economics, social studies, and other subjects. Playing the game can also help students to develop positive money habits and prepare them for the future.

When asked about her experience with the Stock Market Game, Miriam Tareq said, “In our simulation as well as in real-life, the stock market is a mixture of strategy and luck. This experience was both educational and fun.”

Robert E. Lee High School’s team and other winning teams will honored for their achievements in the game at a reception to be held at James Madison University in May.



Lee students Miriam Tareq, Djanira Nickleberry and John Sheffer were members of one of the winning teams participating in the Stock Market Game.

## March Madness Arrives Early at Ware

(STAUNTON, VA – January 23, 2015) Ware Elementary School staff are bringing a March Madness-style tournament competition to the school, albeit a month or so early. Ware's reading coach, Emily Rodzinka and librarian, Susan Surratt worked together to create the Ware Tournament of Books competition.

A wide array of books has been chosen to allow all grade levels to participate. The books were chosen based on the most checked-out books in the library along with teacher and student feedback. Students will read the books and then vote to determine the favorite book using a tournament style format. Technology teacher Mistie Aistrop-Vanhook will also be developing QR (short for quick response) codes for each book that will allow students to have an interactive learning experience during the tournament. The students will scan the QR codes using a classroom iPad to see a brief description of the book, a reading passage, and if available, a short video as well.

"We are hoping to cultivate a love of reading through a March Madness-style tournament. We think the children will have fun voting on the books and seeing if their favorites advance to the next round," noted Mrs. Surratt. The tournament is scheduled to begin in February and will run through March.



The bulletin board in the hallway at Ware displays the Tournament of Books selections.

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