



April 26, 2017

# common Cents

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****Contact:****Bruce Spitzer  
(617) 523-7595****MASSACHUSETTS BANKERS ASSOCIATION AND FIVE SPONSORS LAUNCH "COMMON CENTS"  
FINANCIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM**

BOSTON, April 26, 2017 — April is Financial Literacy Month and the Massachusetts Bankers Association (MBA) and five sponsors have launched "Common Cents," a financial education competition with high school students from around the Commonwealth participating. The program is featured online for viewing at [www.MassCommonCents.com](http://www.MassCommonCents.com)

Recorded recently inside the Massachusetts State House, this innovative financial education quiz-show is hosted by [New England Cable News](#) (NECN) anchor Mike Nikitas; radio celebrity Ashlee Feldman of [JAM'N 94.5](#); and financial expert Jeffrey Fuhrer, executive vice president of the [Federal Reserve Bank of Boston](#). The program also includes special guest appearances by Matt Chatham, former New England Patriot and three-time Super Bowl Champion; Massachusetts Treasurer Deborah Goldberg; and Senator Sal DiDomenico of the Massachusetts Senate.

"Unfortunately, financial education is currently not required by all of Massachusetts' high schools," said Daniel J. Forte, president and CEO of the MBA. "The 'Common Cents' quiz show is a valuable opportunity for high school students -- or just about

anyone -- to gain useable financial knowledge, and could serve as a model for some of the subject matter that should be taught in the future. It's also a fun way to learn the personal finance skills we all need throughout our lives."

"Common Cents" is supported by the MBA and five partners dedicated to financial literacy: [Bank of America](#), [Cape Cod Five Cents Savings Bank](#), [Haverhill Bank](#), Wakefield-based [The Savings Bank](#), and the [SUM Surcharge-Free ATM Program](#).

The "Common Cents" show includes 100 high school students from schools throughout the Commonwealth including: Barnstable High School; Dearborn STEM Academy, Boston; Dennis-Yarmouth Regional High School, South Yarmouth, Mass.; Haverhill High School; Jeremiah Burke High School, Boston; Lynnfield High School; and Wakefield High School.

The program is now being introduced and made available to all schools and teachers statewide as a teaching tool. It is also being distributed to local cable access channels so the general public can benefit from viewing it.

In addition to streaming the program from [www.MassCommonCents.com](http://www.MassCommonCents.com), classroom instructions and teaching materials can be found on the website.

The Massachusetts Bankers Association represents approximately 155 commercial, savings and co-operative banks and savings and loan associations with 69,000 employees located in Massachusetts and elsewhere in New England. Nearly 20 years ago the Association created the SUM Surcharge-Free ATM Program, which has saved consumers millions of dollars over the years and has spread across the country as part of the NYCE/FIS companies.

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