

Vermont Treasury Cup Challenge

AN ACADEMIC CHALLENGE FROM THE VERMONT STATE TREASURER'S OFFICE

It took 17 rounds of competition and two championship matches for the winner of the 2015 Vermont Treasury Cup Challenge to be determined. With just one correct answer separating the two teams, the Mount Mansfield Union High School Cougars beat defending champs South Burlington to take the tournament victory. The day-long high school competition tests student knowledge in personal finance and economics and is directed by the Vermont State Treasurer's Office. Each member of the championship team received a \$500 college savings account and members of the second place team a \$250 account, donated by the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation. The tournament is underwritten by the TD Bank Charitable Foundation. Third place was won by Bellows Free Academy in Fairfax.

Throughout the day-long competition, students received raffle prizes. (At left) Becca Freeman of the Windham Regional Career Center receives a cash envelope from VSECU. (Below) Courtney Meunier of BFA receives a new iPad mini from Community National Bank representative Joanne Hardy.



"It was crazy to win. I had a lot to learn about personal finance and investment."

- MMU student Asher Lehrer-Small

Teams ate lunch at the State House. (At right) Students from the Windham Regional Career Center wait for lunch. (Below) Green Mountain Union High School coach Theresa Buskey chats with student Breanna Vittum.



Teams competed in two competition rooms. The double elimination tournament challenged students both with individual and team questions.



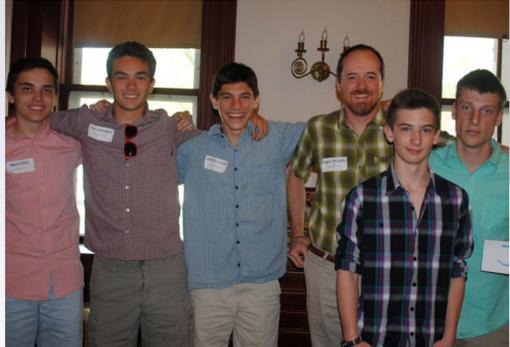
There were ten Vermont high schools that accepted the "challenge" in 2015. Since the program began in 2009, twenty-six different high schools have competed. In addition to the team photos above, below are team photos of the other schools that participated.



Burr and Burton Academy was represented by (l to r) Mason Winslow, Charlie Cai, Kiana Avalon and Stephanie Boucher. The team was coached by Jon Wilson.



Essex High School was represented by (l to r) coach Charlie Burnett, Daniel Ro, Andrey Chmyk, Matt Wu and Jason Yin.



Stowe High School's team was composed of (l to r) Max Girt, Tim Gallagher, AJ Braverman, coach Roger Murphy, Dexter Thurston and JJ Clark.



The Windham Regional Career Center was represented by (l to r) coach Maribeth Cornell, Greg Wood, Becca Freeman, Tyler Germain, Brandi Butler and Trevor Houle.



(Above) State Treasurer Beth Pearce welcomes the ten teams competing in the Challenge. (At left) MMU celebrates their victory.



Students competing for MMU were (l to r) Leo Lehrer-Small, Gabe Chase, Kyle Polson, Ethan Lewis, Loughlin Neuert, Asher Lehrer-Small and coach David Alofsin.



South Burlington High School was represented in the Challenge by (l to r) coach Eric Stone, Matt Reeves, Vaishnavi Andra, Matt Gordon and Phil Holt. SBHS placed second in the Challenge.



Bellows Free Academy-Fairfax placed third in the tournament. Pictured here with their trophies are (l to r) coach Joe Emery, John McGuinness, Courtney Meunier, Geoff Schukei, State Treasurer Beth Pearce, Alex Ferguson, Victoria Howard and Ben Tague.

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS and STAFF



- Nelson Baker
- Scott Baker
- Deb Behm
- Joanne Hardy
- John Helme
- Lisa Helme
- Lynette Kemp
- Gregg Mousley
- John Pelletier
- Grant Peterson
- Wendy Rea
- Deborah Unica

Many of the volunteers were with the Vermont JumpStart Coalition, a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting financial literacy among youth.



Champlain Valley Union High School was coached by (center) Tamie-Jo Dickinson. Student competitors were (l to r) Max Pudvar, Lisa Schold, Bailee Pudvar and Chris Mallow.



Green Mountain Union High School was represented by (l to r) coach Theresa Buskey, Kaili Osier, Breanna Vittum, Mack Walton and Kyle Kemp.



U32 High School was coached by George Cook (far right). Student competitors were (l to r) Eric Jacobsen, Devon Andrews, Avery Alberghini and Bradley Smart.



"It was an absolutely wonderful day. My students had a blast and can't wait to attend again next year."

-- WRCC Coach Maribeth Cornell