

Vermont Treasury Cup Challenge

AN ACADEMIC CHALLENGE FROM THE VERMONT STATE TREASURER'S OFFICE

It came down to the wire. Following more than 17 rounds of head-to-head competition, Essex High School emerged as the winner over Mount Mansfield Union High School to win the championship of the 2016 Vermont Treasury Cup Challenge. MMU finished second. 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 South Burlington High School.



Essex High School celebrates their first place finish in the 2016 Vermont Treasury Cup Challenge. Pictured here (l to r) is State Treasurer Beth Pearce, Elena Doty, Caleb Weis, Ethan Harvey, Omkar Borse and coach Charlie Burnett. Not pictured is student Gita Krishna.

There were ten Vermont high schools that accepted the "challenge" in 2016. Since the program began in 2009, twenty-seven different high schools have competed.



The tournament includes intense competition, lunch at the State House, and time to mingle with friends. (Above) Mt. Mansfield Union High School students Benjamin Nussbaum and Oliver Waite pose for a team picture at the State House. (Left) Mikaela Magnant of MVUHS receives a new iPad Air from Community National Bank representative Joanne Hardy.



Finishing in second place was Mt. Mansfield Union High School. Representing the school was (l to r) coach David Alofsin, Finnegan Cleary, Leo Lehrer-Small, David Rosales, Loughlin Neuert, Benjamin Nussbaum and Oliver Waite.



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



Placing third in the competition was South Burlington High School. Representing SBHS was (l to r) Ateev Nahar, Mara Senecal-Albrecht, Katherine Yang, Sparsh Bhardwaj and coach Eric Stone.



This was the first year for Winooski High School to compete in the Challenge. Representing WHS was (l to r) assistant coach Marc McQuinn, Rainbow Chen, Riley Corrigan, Colton Lavalette, Key Nguyen, Marie Ly and coach Courtney Poquette.

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS and STAFF



- Scott Baker
- Jeremiah Breer
- Margaret Ferguson
- Joanne Hardy
- John Helme
- Lisa Helme
- Tim Lueders-Dumont
- Gregg Mousley
- John Pelletier
- Grant Peterson
- Jackson Pine
- Wendy Rea
- Judy Ribolini
- Deborah Unica

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

"My personal marginal benefit certainly exceeded the opportunity cost of attending this fantastic and enriching event."
- EHS student, Omkar Borse



Everyone enjoyed lunch served at the State House.

Check out these team photos!



Burlington High School was represented in the Challenge by (l to r) Isaac Lamoreaux, Irma Cicak, Anna Marchessault, Zach Mazuzan, August Tallmadge, Emin Alicic and coach David Lamberti.



This was the second year CVU competed in the Challenge. Competing this year were (l to r) coach Tamie-Jo Dickinson, Harry Conn, Max Pudvar, Bailee Pudvar and Jacobus Poelmann.

"I learned a crazy amount in one day!"
- U32 student, Caitlin O'Kelly

"This was WHS's first year in the Treasurer's Cup and although we were nervous, it was a heart-racing and fun educational opportunity for all of us. I'm looking forward to next year if we get a chance to come back!"
- WHS student, Rainbow Chen



New this year, the winner of the Treasury Cup won the right to represent Vermont as a semi-finalist in the National Economics Challenge. Essex High School is in the Adam Smith Division for schools with advanced placement economics programs. Mount Mansfield Union is in the David Ricardo Division for semester general economic students. The schools participate through an online test. Scores determine whether they are invited to the national tournament in New York City.



(Left) Cash prizes of \$10 to \$20 were given out throughout the tournament to student competitors by random drawings. The prizes were donated by VSECU. Tournament director Lisa Helme makes a drawing. (Below) Trophies were awarded to students placing 1st-3rd.



Missisquoi Valley Union High School was represented by (l to r) coach Jacob Hartman, Mikaela Magnant, Cayden Theberge, Austin Sullivan and Noah Gates.



The competition was held in Montpelier at the Pavilion Auditorium and in the Vermont History Museum. Stowe High School was coached by Roger Murphy who is pictured here with his team at the museum.



The U32 High School was represented by (l to r) coach Bonnie Gadapee, Cyrus Royce, Krista Towne, Caitlin O'Kelly and Lilly Richardson.



Competing for Windham Regional Career Center was (l to r) coach Maribeth Cornell, Matt Dulmaine, Ethen Waterman, Sarah Forrett, Baxter Cragin, and Greg Wood.

"Competing for the Treasury Cup is an awesome experience for the kids. They get to rub elbows with other students studying the same kinds of materials, have fun with each other, and try their best to advance in the tournament. We always learn something new each year we participate."
--EHS Coach Charlie Burnett



Will your school accept the Challenge next year?