

Valley National Bank Expands Support for W!se's Financial Literacy Programs

New York, NY, - Working in Support of Education (w!se) is pleased to announce a new \$7,000 grant from Valley National Bank to support w!se's Financial Literacy Certification program and its Financial Literacy Speakers' Bureau in both Flushing High School in Queens and Central Islip High School on Long Island.

To date, the bank has provided \$22,000 in the 2014-2015 school year to sponsor the program at these and other schools in the region including Cascades High School, Queens High School for the Sciences, John Dewey High School, and in New Jersey at Culinary Arts, Hospitality and Tourism School. Through this award winning program high school students develop their personal finance knowledge and skills and have an opportunity to become Certified Financially Literate™ by taking and passing the w!se Financial literacy Certification Test.

Volunteers from the bank have also delivered engaging and interactive Speakers Bureau presentations on personal finance to students at John Dewey HS, the High School of Economics and Finance in New York and Newark Collegiate Academy and Long Branch High School in New Jersey.

"We are truly grateful to Valley National Bank for its commitment to supporting our programs in these schools," commented Phyllis Frankfort Perillo, w!se President and CEO. The bank is making a vital contribution to financial education," she added.

"Valley National Bank has been grateful to be able to partner with an organization that provides a comprehensive financial literacy curriculum to our youth," commented Ryan de France, V.P. and CRA & Community Development Officer. "The program gives teachers engaging and comprehensive material to educate students on how best to manage their money now and for the future."

About Valley National Bancorp

Valley National Bancorp is a regional bank holding company headquartered in Wayne, New Jersey with over \$18 billion in assets. Its principal subsidiary, Valley National Bank, currently operates 224 branch locations serving 24 counties throughout northern and central New Jersey, the NYC boroughs of Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens and Long Island, and southeast and central Florida. Valley National Bank is one of the largest commercial banks headquartered in New Jersey and is committed to providing the most convenient service, the latest in product innovations and an experienced and knowledgeable staff with a high priority on friendly customer service 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. For more information about Valley National Bank and its products and services, please visit www.valleynationalbank.com.

About w!se

Working in Support of Education (W!SE) is a leading educational nonprofit based in New York City with a mission to improve the lives of young people and at-risk adults through programs that develop financial literacy and readiness for college and the workforce. Our initiatives are built on the five pillars of relevancy, real-world experiences, strong partnerships, volunteerism and assessment. For more information, visit wise-ny.org. Follow w!se on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/wiseneducation) and Twitter [@wiseneducation](https://twitter.com/wiseneducation).

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