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Introduction

Thank you, Ellis Cropper!

We rely on the generosity of our Patrons to fund our state and local financial wellness programming. Although this report is focused on the benefits you receive, your support has allowed us to empower local organizations with financial education resources, fund advocacy initiatives, and build an advisory board to serve people from across the state.

As you know, the country is facing a crisis and many of the problems people face daily are caused or directly affected by their financial situations. With your support, we aid communities in their efforts to work toward economic empowerment through financial education.

Empowerment

Your generous sponsorship funds the financial empowerment of your community's citizens. We provide personnel and resources to help organizations grow and scale financial literacy programs as well as resources for individuals and families.

Advocacy

The NFEC leads a comprehensive advocacy campaign to encourage focused attention on the financial well-being of its local citizens. Campaign components are available to encourage parents to teach their children about money, schools to adopt financial education programs, and individuals to improve their financial knowledge.

Relationships

Our local campaign director actively builds local relationships with beneficiary organizations, community leaders, media and influencers, and other people who will help us meet the social impact objectives established through this campaign.



Donations & Advocacy Overview

Donations

Ellis Cropper's generous sponsorship funds the financial empowerment of his community's citizens with donations to beneficiary groups. We provide personnel and resources to help organizations grow and scale financial literacy programs as well as resources for individuals and families.

In the first six months, we provided resources to 82 groups in Massachusetts.

Advocacy

The NFEC leads a comprehensive advocacy campaign to encourage focused attention on the financial wellbeing of stakeholders across the U.S. and additional efforts abroad. Campaign components are available to encourage parents to teach their children about money, schools to adopt financial education programs, and individuals to improve their financial knowledge.

In the first six months, the various advocacy campaigns included a review and promotion of Massachusetts financial literacy standards, the Financial Educators Day Awards, statewide financial literacy test promotions, and other general advocacy promotions. Exposure was generated via email contacts, through social media, paid ads, press releases, and media pickup, generating the results detailed in this report.



Featured Beneficiary Organizations

The Massachusetts Financial Educators Council supports diverse community beneficiary organizations toward one shared objective: helping people work toward economic empowerment. Our beneficiary organizations and partners, who are committed to financial well-being in communities around the globe, are directly supported by our team's efforts and dedication.



Select Organizations Supported

Vernon Hill Elementary School. Students completed a year-long course led personally by Ellis Cropper, a Certified Financial Education Instructor (CFEI®). This program taught students personal finance topics that ranged from career planning and entrepreneurship to developing positive financial habits and understanding the cost of living.

Orchard Street Academy. Orchard Street Academy (OSA) is a public therapeutic school serving students in grades 6-12. OSA's programming includes core academics, individual and group counseling, art and music therapy, a range of high-interest electives, and clinical case management.

Lincoln Public Schools. The Lincoln School Committee is responsible for preschool to grade 8 educational programs at Lincoln School, which serves approximately 600 students. Lincoln School is one of the initial member schools in the METCO Program, a voluntary desegregation program that provides an opportunity for students from Boston to enroll in suburban school districts.

Overall Campaign Exposure, Assets, & Reach Synopsis

Total Online Reach

Impressions/Views

148,517

Engagements

11,837

Social Posts

Impressions

3,668

Engagements

242

Remarketing

Impressions

52,277

Engagements

381

Paid Ads

Webpage Views that Feature Ellis on MA.FinancialEducatorsCouncil.org

Impressions

4,405

Engagements

1,691

Slide-up Ad

Impressions

1,682



In Page Data

Emails to NFEC's Email List

Impressions

86,485

Engagements

8,294

Media Outreach & Releases

Views

Engagements

Publications

9,171

1,229

484

Direct Outreach to MA Legislature

Sent

Engagements

162

128



Advisory Board Development & Leadership Position

Ellis Cropper's leadership as the Founding Member of the Massachusetts Financial Educators Council led to the development of the state Advisory Board. The NFEC recruited and onboarded prominent leaders in the community to provide strategic direction and guidance for financial education initiatives, fostering partnerships with local organizations and schools to expand financial literacy programs.



Ellis Cropper

ChFC®, CLTC®, is a Financial Professional with New York Life, Retired Major with a 34-year career in the U.S. military, and was previously an Assistant Professor of Military Science at Widener and Villanova Universities. He recently earned his MBA at Nichols College and actively teaches personal finance to elementary students. Ellis is the Founding Member of the MFEC's Advisory Board.



Andrew Lendnal

Financial Wellness Expert, bestselling author, and internationally known speaker, has written seven books simplifying financial concepts for readers of all ages.



Elizabeth Clark

Chief Information Officer (CIO) at Harvard Business School, spearheads campus-wide initiatives and speaks locally and nationally on topics related to IT in higher education.



Mahendra Pattni

Head of Finance at Bill & Melinda Gates Medical Research Institute, develops finance team members into collaborative business partners.

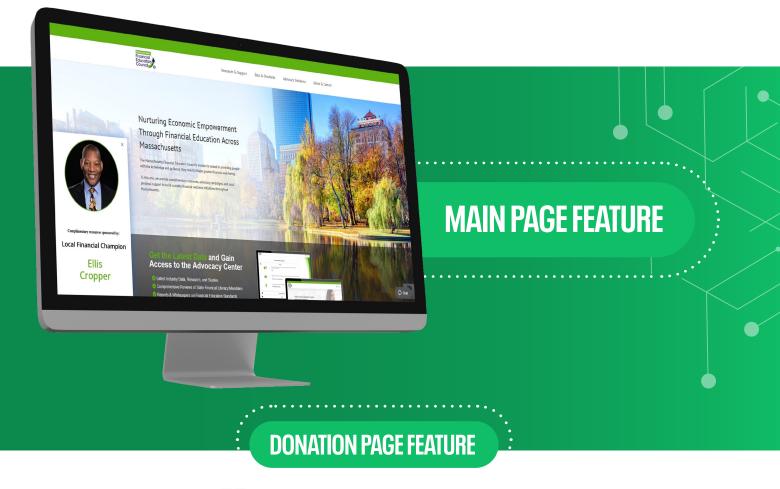


Mary Ellen Normen

Administrator for Business & Finance at Lincoln Public Schools, is a skilled strategic leader and coach of human creativity, ingenuity, compliance, and process improvement.

State Webpage Features

Prominent features of Ellis Cropper's leadership of this campaign were posted across the state chapter website.



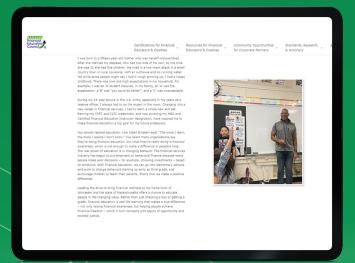


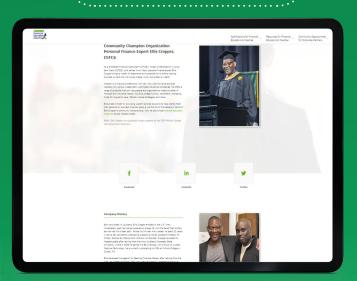
National Site Webpage Features

Prominent features of Ellis Cropper's leadership of this campaign were posted across the NFEC national website. Three core messaging themes emerged from these pages that highlighted his leadership, expertise, and community service.

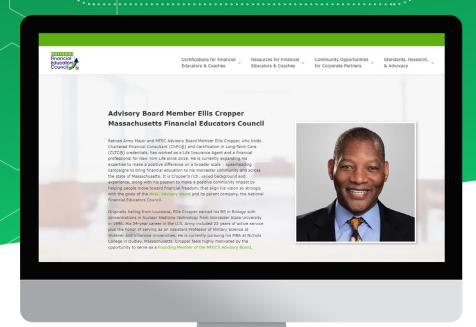
COMMUNITY SERVICE FEATURE

EXPERTISE FEATURE





LEADERSHIP & ADVISORY BOARD FEATURE



Financial Education Program Spotlight: Ellis Cropper

Ellis Cropper, the Founding Member of the Massachusetts Financial Educators Council, makes a number of outstanding, highly-visible contributions to the financial wellness movement. He teaches financial education classes to third, fourth, and fifth graders in the Worcester Public Schools, with a plan to bring age-appropriate courses to middle and high school students across the state.

Highlighting his advocacy efforts, Ellis Cropper has donated complimentary financial education resources and support to 82 community organizations and nonprofits around Massachusetts and has led several statewide campaigns to raise awareness about the importance of starting financial education at the elementary school level.



YouTube video featuring Ellis Cropper



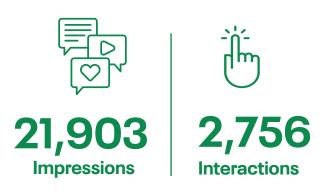
Campaign Details and Results

A featured spotlight of this program was emailed to the NFEC's list of 64,826 subscribers and garnered 19,533 impressions and 2,605 page visits in the first week.

A YouTube video featuring Ellis Cropper and his elementary school program earned 948 views and 119 likes in the first week.

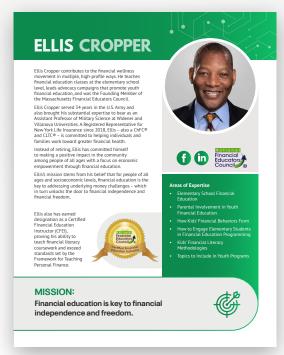
Social media featuring the program garnered 1,422 impressions and 32 interactions.

Social media featuring the program

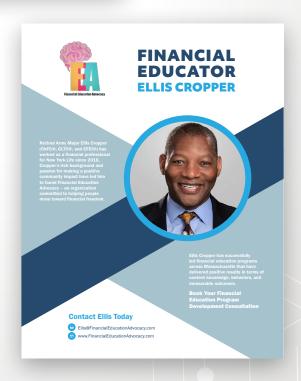


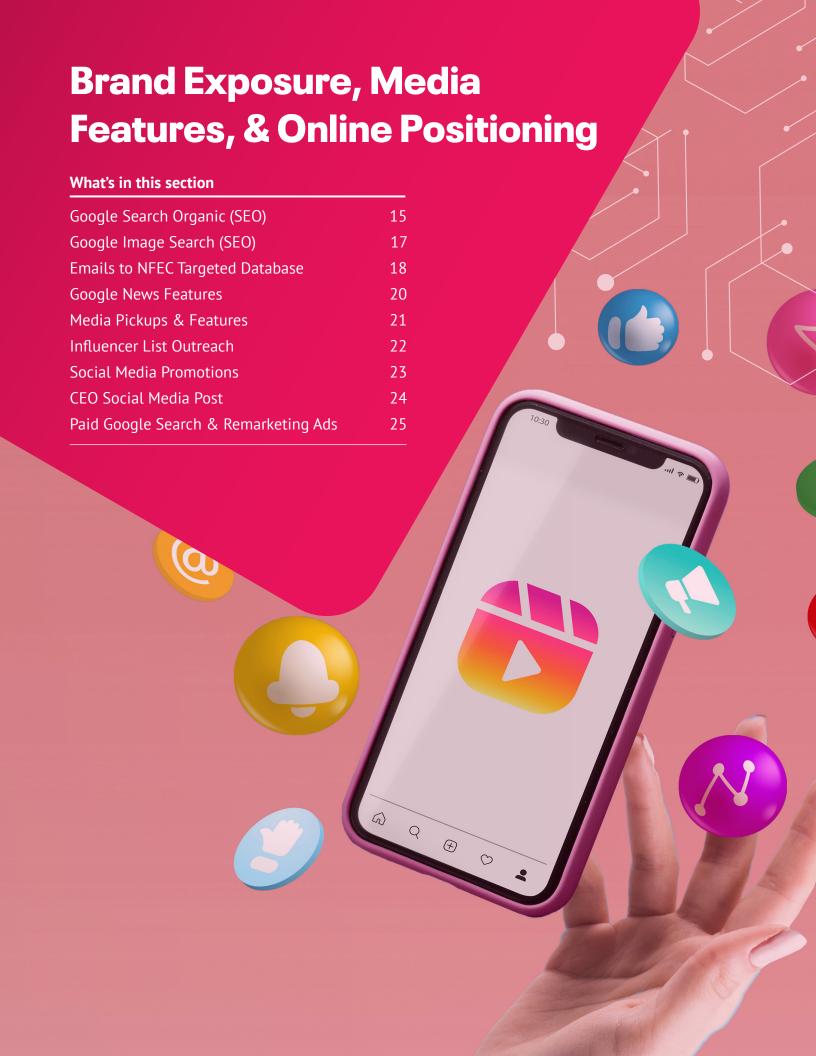
Marketing Assets Development

The NFEC created several marketing and promotional assets to help Ellis Cropper highlight his professionalism and communicate his commendable efforts in delivering financial education programming. These resources showcase his dedication and the impact of his work in fostering financial literacy among young learners.







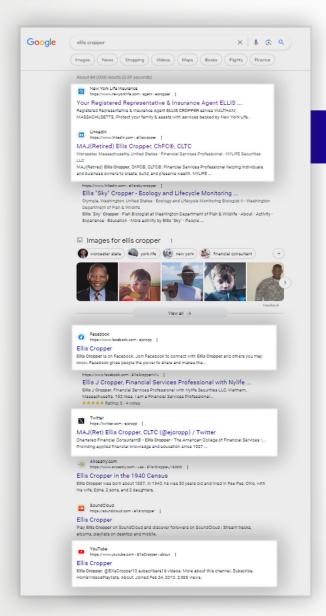


Google Search Organic (SEO)



1 search result in the top 20

from New York Life and 4 low-value social media profiles. Only 1 of these search results highlighted his professional endeavors.





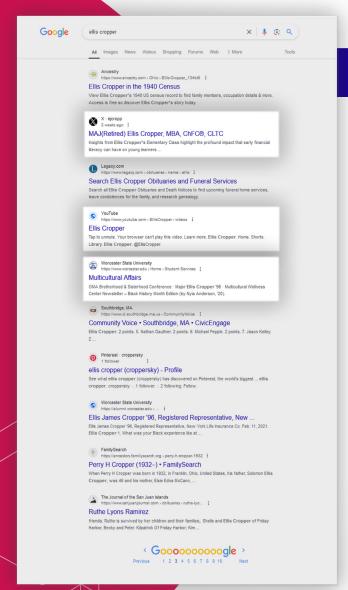
11 of the top 20 search results.

These results include 3 NFEC feature webpages, 2 news features, 4 social media profiles, and 1 New York Life feature.



Google Search Organic (SEO) cont.





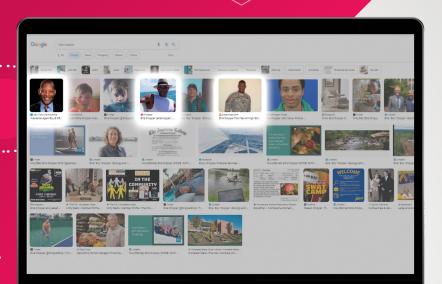




Google Image Search (SEO)

BEFORE

Only 3 images from social media accounts appear. Most photos are older and only 1 highlighted Elllis Cropper's professional endeavors.



AFTER

13 images appear including multiple personal images and infographics that highlight Ellis Cropper's leadership, community service, and expertise in the financial space.



Emails to NFEC Targeted Database

The NFEC featured Ellis as the Founding Member of the Massachusetts Financial Educators Council and his program spotlight. These high-profile features garnered more than 40,000 impressions and over 3,700 page visits within the first week after sending the emails.



Ellis as the Founding Member of the Massachusetts Financial Educators Council

Within the first week of sending emails:





Page Visits

A featured spotlight of this program was emailed to the NFEC's list of 64,826 subscribers

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Social media featuring the program garnered 1,422 impressions and 32 interactions.



■ Brand Exposure, Media Features, & Online Positioning



The Massachusetts
Advisory Board
announcement was
emailed to the NFEC's
mail list of 64,636
subscribers





Google News Features

BEFORE

No news features (0)

Ellis Cropper Sponsors Back-to-school Shopping Guide for Parents that Want to Teach Their Kids About Money

Ilis oper

Vernon Hill Elementary Students Receive Prizes for Graduating a Financial Literacy Program Thanks to Ellis Cropper

Ellis Cropper Introduced as Founding Member of the Massachusetts Financial Educators Council

Central Massachusetts leaders join local initiative to drive equitable health for all

Community Groups Across Massachusetts to Benefit from Complimentary Financial Education Resources BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, UNITED STATES, May 1-1, 2024 / EINPresswire.com/ Community-based organizations across the state of Massachusetts are...

Ellis Cropper is founding member and on the Advisory Board for the Financial Educators Council. Ellis Cropper's vision of...

ellis cropper financial

9 hours ago

WANE 15

1 week ago

66

"Financial education is practical learning that makes a difference in helping people work toward greater financial wellness – which in turn connects with equity of opportunity and social justice.

- Ellis Cropper as quoted on Fox2 Now

FOX 2 now

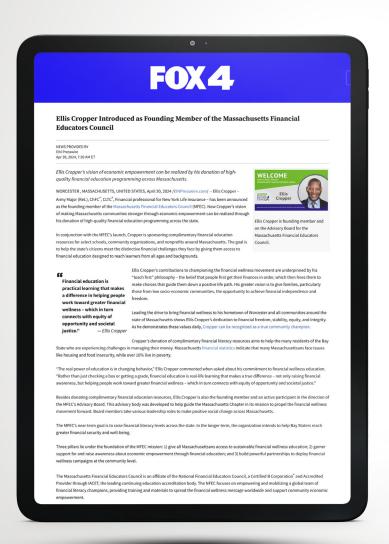


5 features in a Google news search that feature Ellis Cropper's leadership of financial literacy education across Massachusetts.

Media Pickup & Features

Throughout the campaign, the NFEC issued press releases and reached out directly to media outlets, influencers, and reporters via email. This outreach helped elevate awareness of the campaign and attracted people passionate about participating and beneficiary organizations interested in implementing financial wellness programming.

As a result of the press releases, Ellis was featured online through 484 publications, garnering 9,171 views and 1,229 engagements.











Influencer List Outreach

With media releases, the NFEC emails influencers, media outlets, and publications to help extend the reach of the messaging. Included on this page is a partial list of the influencers, outlets, and publications that received these emails.

Partial list of influencers who received communications:

NerdWallet | Internet Blog

CNBC Online | Internet Cable Network

Squawk Box - CNBC Cable Network | Cable Network Show

Wall Street Journal | Daily Newspaper

CNBC | Cable Network

MarketWatch | Internet Magazine - Online Only

Forbes Online | Internet Magazine

Bankrate | Internet Magazine - Online Only

Business Insider | Internet Magazine - Online Only

Penny Hoarder | Internet Blog

Bloomberg News | News Service/Syndicate

Forbes Advisor | Internet Magazine - Online Only

grow | Internet Magazine - Online Only

Mad Money with Jim Cramer – CNBC Cable Network | Cable Network Show

Money | Internet Magazine - Online Only

Motley Fool | Internet Magazine - Online Only

U.S. News & World Report | Internet Magazine - Online Only

AARP The Magazine | Magazine

CNBC Make It | Internet Magazine - Online Only

CNET | Internet Magazine - Online Only

Forbes | Magazine

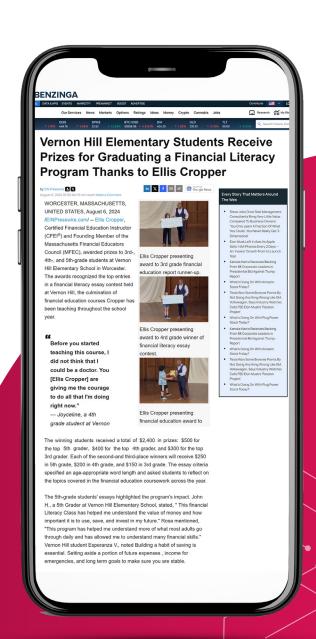
Investopedia | Internet Magazine - Online Only

Kiplinger | Magazine

Kiplinger's Personal Finance | Magazine

New York Times | Daily Newspaper





Social Media Promotions

Announcements of Ellis Cropper's leadership and involvement were posted on the NFEC's social media accounts: LinkedIn, X (formally Twitter), Facebook, and Instagram.

March 7, 2024 post results: 485

Impressions and 36 Engagements. Impressions and 23 Engagements. National Financial Educators Council National Financial Educators Council





January 24, 2024 post results: 382

August 15, 2024 post results: 429 Impressions and 32 Engagements.



CEO Social Media Post

The NFEC's CEO, Vince Shorb, highlighted Ellis Cropper's program for elementary students, recognizing it as a model for best practices in financial education programming. He also included a link to a YouTube video that featured Ellis's elementary school financial literacy program, showcasing the impact and effectiveness of the initiative.

4,029 Followers





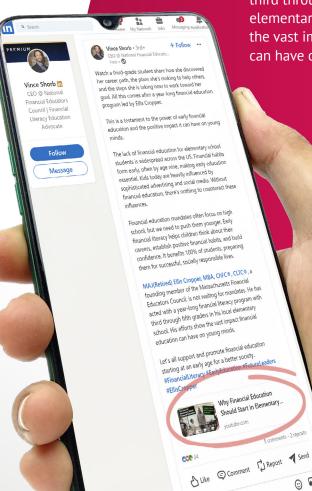
Reactions

The post led to conversations about Ellis's efforts and elementary school program on our weekly client calls with about 25 participants.

MAJ (Retired) Ellis Cropper, MBA, ChFC®, CLTC®, a founding member of the Massachusetts Financial Educators Council, is not waiting for mandates. He has acted with a yearlong financial literacy program with third through fifth graders in his local elementary school. His efforts show the vast impact financial education can have on young minds."

(i)

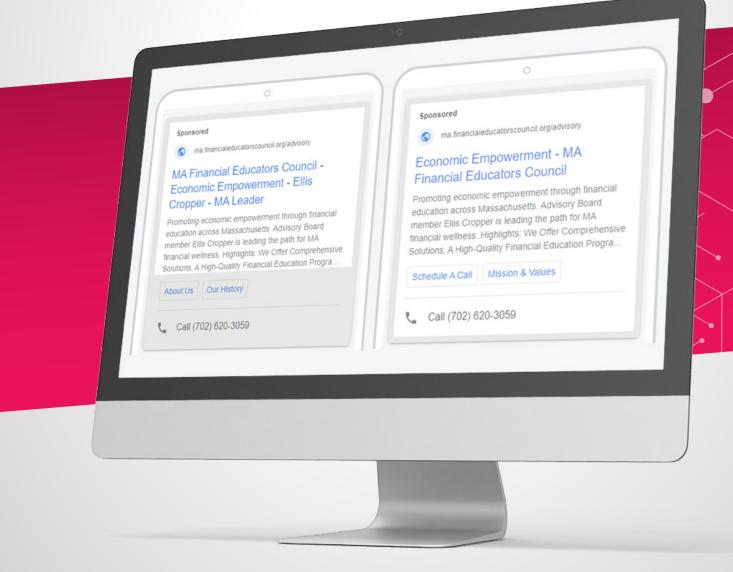
Add a comment...



Paid Google Search Ads & Remarketing Ads

The NFEC conducted pay-per-click marketing campaigns that targeted people in Massachusetts and previous visitors to the Massachusetts Financial Educators Council website. Many of the paid ads garnered first positioning placement on terms like "Massachusetts Financial Education" and also "Ellis Cropper." Paid ads and remarketing directed visitors to pages that featured Ellis Cropper.







Statewide Financial Literacy Test

Ellis Cropper, Founding Member of the Massachusetts Financial Educators Council, spearheaded the NFEC's National Financial Literacy Test across Massachusetts. The objective was to gather accurate data about how the state compares with the rest of the country in terms of financial capabilities and leverage the data to garner media attention highlighting the need for financial education.

Massachusetts Test Results

Results of the National Financial Literacy Test in Massachusetts were just released. Among 1,462 teens aged 15-18 who took the assessment, a proportion of 56.98% achieved a passing score (70% or higher). However, the average score among this age group was 67.83% – just short of passing.

For comparison, the nationwide average score for 15-18-year-olds – among the 52,572 total participants from this age group who have completed the test to date – is 64.04%. Thus Massachusetts teenagers on

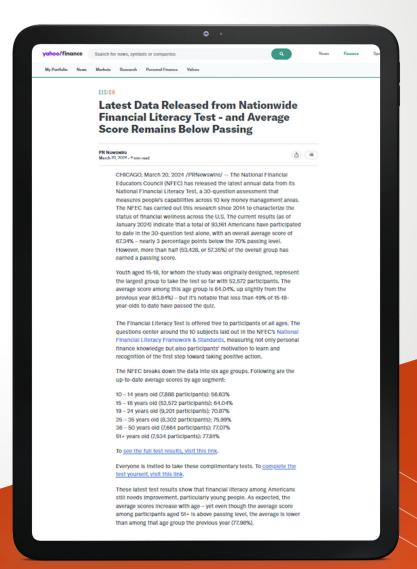
average rank almost 4 percentage points higher than youth from the rest of the U.S. on this important evaluation.

Campaign Details and Results

The NFEC leveraged their National Financial Literacy Test with results from over 160,000 users nationwide to compare Massachusetts results.

Ellis Cropper promoted the financial literacy test across Massachusetts and had 1,462 participants between the ages of 15 and 18 complete the 30-question test.

Press releases were issued to individual journalists, industry newswires, and the top search engines with the most notable postings appearing in <u>Yahoo Finance</u> and the <u>Boston Examiner</u>.



Back-to-School Campaign

August marks National Back-to-School Month and the Massachusetts Financial Educators Council, supported by Ellis Cropper, launched a campaign to provide free resources for parents to teach their children vital money management skills often missing from school curricula.

Resources were made available for schools, nonprofits, community groups, and parents to leverage as teachable moments for kids' financial education. The resources include a list of common back-to-school shopping needs, a shopping budget worksheet, and a planning guide. Additionally, tips for parents on how to use back-to-school shopping as a financial teaching moment are provided. These downloadable tools and activities aim to enhance financial literacy among students of all ages



Campaign Details and Results

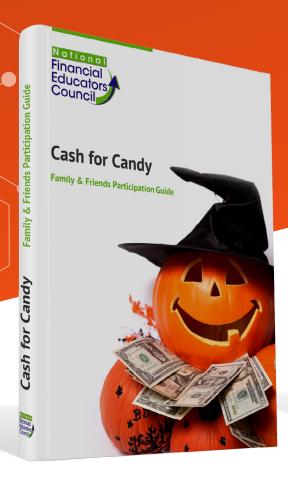
NFEC marketing garnered 21,221 impressions and 3,664 visits.

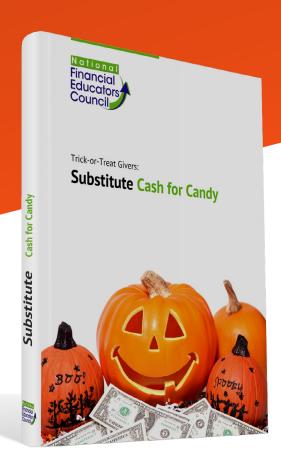
Press releases were sent through to individual journalists, industry newswires, and top search engines, with the most notable postings appearing at <u>Education News Today</u>, <u>Today in Finance</u>, and <u>NBC 22 Chicopee</u>, <u>Massachusetts</u>.

Cash for Candy Campaign

Ellis Cropper sponsored the Cash for Candy campaign across Massachusetts. This campaign encourages parents to promote their kids' physical health and financial health at the same time.

Parents, treat-givers, and youth all can participate in the campaign. Parents can purchase candy back from their kids and use the buy-back as a teachable moment to provide children with key financial literacy lessons. Treat-givers can give out coins or cash instead of candy. Ellis provided guides for parents and treat-givers who wanted to participate.







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Financial Educators Day

Financial Educators Day recognizes individuals dedicated to improving the financial capabilities of people in their communities. Celebrated on the last Friday of April, which is Financial Literacy Month, this day honors educators who contribute positively to the financial literacy movement. Whether someone hosts a small workshop or leads a large-scale campaign, their efforts to enhance financial education are appreciated and acknowledged.

Thanks to Ellis Cropper's efforts in Massachusetts, those in the state who are helping advance the financial literacy movement received special recognition and additional promotions to highlight their contributions. This initiative has brought well-deserved attention to the tireless work of financial educators, reinforcing the importance of their role in fostering financial literacy within their communities across Massachusetts.



Curtis Chambers, Financial Coach

Award Recipients

The following individuals were recognized for their efforts in helping the citizens of Massachusetts work toward greater financial health:

Professor Carin Zinter is a business professor dedicated to empowering individuals with essential financial knowledge. She has worked to bridge the gap between theoretical financial concepts and practical application.

After 10 years in retail banking and management, Danielle Desmarais helps high school students and community members build a foundation of financial literacy skills and healthy money management.

Professor Sarah Brown Morrissey, M.Ed, M.C.J., has spent two decades empowering individuals to make informed financial decisions. Professor Morrissey has actively engaged with communities through outreach programs aimed at underserved populations while at the same time teaching at Everett High School.

Jessica Murry works at one of Leominster Credit Union's three high school-based branches and also teaches Banking Internship and Personal Finance to high school juniors and seniors.

Campaign Details and Results

NFEC marketing prior to the award garnered 23,982 impressions, and 1,191 visits.

Press releases were sent to individual journalists, industry newswires, and the top search engines, with the most notable postings appearing at <u>Massachusetts Business Journal</u>, <u>Bay State Times</u>, and <u>WWLP 22 News MA</u>.

The NFEC sent physical awards to five individuals with deserving applications in Massachusetts.

Community Champion Award

The Financial Education Community Champion Award recognizes outstanding individuals or organizations dedicated to promoting financial literacy and empowerment within their communities. This award celebrates the high-impact efforts of those who go above and beyond to educate and inspire others toward achieving financial wellness.

Craig Dottin, Principal, and Kelly Boyd, Assistant Principal at Vernon Hill Elementary School have been awarded the Financial Education Community Champion Award to recognize their outstanding leadership in bringing a standalone financial literacy program led by Ellis Cropper to third-, fourth-, and fifth-grade students.





Campaign Details and Results

Plaques were designed and sent to Ellis to present to Craig Dottin and Kelly Boyd.

Ellis Cropper presented awards to Craig and Kelly in front of hundreds of students, parents, and faculty.

A spotlight webpage was created to feature the award ceremony and to recognize all stakeholders involved.

Student Achievement Awards & Recognition

Ellis Cropper, ChFC®, CLTC, and Founding Member of the Massachusetts Financial Educators Council, led a ceremony that awarded prizes to third-, fourth-, and fifth-grade students at Vernon Hill Elementary School. The awards recognized top entries in a financial literacy essay contest after the culmination of financial education courses Cropper had been teaching throughout the school year.

A total of \$2,400 in prizes was awarded to the winning entries. Funding for the awards was provided by Ellis Cropper, the Massachusetts Financial Educators Council, and Worcester County DA Joseph D. Early, Jr. Essay criteria specified an age-appropriate word length and asked students to reflect on the topics covered in the financial education coursework across the year.

Background & Course Impact

Students completed a year-long course led by Ellis Cropper, a Certified Financial Education Instructor (CFEI®). This program taught students personal finance topics that ranged from career planning and entrepreneurship to developing positive financial habits and understanding the cost of living. The course was capped off with a writing contest so students could synthesize what they learned into an article.

Campaign Details and Results

The educational materials used for the courses were sourced from the NFEC Elementary School Curriculum.

The NFEC provided banner-sized checks for use in the ceremony and contributed half the amount of the awards to 9 deserving students.

A featured spotlight of this program was emailed to the NFEC mail list and garnered 22,504 impressions and 1,087 visits.

Press releases were issued to individual journalists, industry newswires, and the top search engines with the most notable postings appearing at the <u>Boston Examiner</u>, <u>Massachusetts Business Journal</u>, and the <u>Bay State Times</u>.

A related social media feature garnered 1,345 impressions and 23 interactions.



Before you started teaching this course, I did not think that I could be a doctor, but now I know that if I just try, I can be a doctor. You are giving me the courage to do all that I'm doing right now." Joyceline, 5th-grade Vernon Hill Elementary student

7

Student Achievement Awards & Recognition













Conclusion

To Ellis

Thank you for your generous support and leadership of the Massachusetts Financial Educators Council. Your contributions have been instrumental in building a campaign that is making a meaningful impact across Massachusetts and advancing the financial education movement.

As a Certified B Corporation[®], we are deeply committed to all our stakeholders – local citizens, beneficiary groups, and our financial industry partners. Our goal is to create a positive outcome for everyone involved, and the benefits we offer are our way of expressing our gratitude for your partnership.

We look forward to continuing to work together to encourage financial education throughout Massachusetts. Thank you once again for your ongoing efforts and support!

Thank you!