



For Immediate Release

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**Improving the Financial Literacy of State Students is the Focus of Oct. 15th Summit
Hosted by Connecticut Jump\$tart and the Office of the State Treasurer**

Meriden, Connecticut – September 22, 2015 – How to better prepare Connecticut students for the economic challenges of the 21st century is the focus of the **2015 Connecticut Financial Literacy Summit**, which will take place on Thursday, October 15 at the conference facilities at Rentschler Field in East Hartford, CT.

The Summit, hosted by the Connecticut Chapter of the Jump\$tart Coalition in association with the Office of State Treasurer Denise L. Nappier, will bring together policymakers, educators, parents and members of the business community and the public to begin discussing and collaborating on new ways to increase the financial literacy of the state's students. Formal presentations will begin at 4 PM followed by a reception and networking from 5:30 to 6:30 PM. Pre-conference workshops, including sessions on topics such as financial illiteracy's impact on the economy and innovations in financial instruction, will be held from 2 to 4 PM.

According to Christopher Lee, president of Connecticut Jump\$tart – part of the non-profit Jump\$tart Coalition for Personal Financial Literacy, a national advocate for financial literacy – the state has received failing grades in two recent reports measuring financial education across the country. "We received an "F" on the *2013 National Report Card on State Efforts to Improve Financial Literacy in High Schools* compiled by the Center for Financial Literacy in Vermont," he said. "We also placed in the bottom 25% of states in terms of financial education requirements in the Council for Economic Education's 2014 biennial study, *The Survey of the States: Economic and Personal Finance Education in Our Nation's Schools*. Connecticut can – and must – do better. This Summit hopes to begin a statewide conversation on making that happen."

Treasurer Nappier echoed that message. "As one who firmly believes that the financial fitness of young people is positively correlated with the future health of the state's economy, our goal must be for every child to develop the financial savvy that their future will depend on. This effort speaks to the importance of the work that lies ahead at the Summit -- to retool our efforts and take concerted action toward strengthening the foundation for youth financial education across our state," she said.

In addition to Treasurer Nappier and Christopher Lee, conference speakers include Laura Levine, CEO of Jump\$tart National, and Jack Kosakowski, CEO of Junior Achievement USA.

Among the firms providing major financial support for the Summit are People's United Bank, CHET-TIAA, EverFi, and Signature Bank. Sponsorship opportunities are still available by calling Christopher Lee at (203) 935-0265.

Registration is open to all residents. For more information or to register, go to www.ctjumpstart.org or call 203-935-0265.

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