



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**STOCK MARKET GAME WORKSHOP REGISTRATION
NOW OPEN FOR FALL 2008**

JACKSON, MS—August 15, 2008— Teacher training is available for teachers to learn how to use the Mississippi Stock Market Game (SMG) program in the fall. The simulation is one of the most effective learning tools available about the free enterprise system for students in grades four through 12. Data concerning the success of Mississippi students who participate in the program indicates an average eight point increase in economic literacy. The program is appropriate for students in Grade 4 through 12.

Katherine B. Tate, teacher at Wingfield High explained the value of the workshops, “The Stock Market Game workshop I attended this summer opened up a world that seems closed to average teachers and students. It has been very enlightening,” The program enables teams of students to invest a hypothetical \$100,000 in the stock market over a 10-week period,” said Tate.

Todd Boucher, Biloxi High, explained the value of the program to students, “What amazed me more than anything was the fact that my students would come to me daily to discuss what was going on with the companies in which they had invested. Even more amazing than that was the fact that they really understood what was causing the fluctuations in the prices of the stocks,” said Boucher.

An on-line classroom program, the Mississippi Stock Market Game (SMG), which is the most effective classroom tool available to teach students about the free enterprise system is available to teachers again in the spring and teachers may begin training on the SMG as early as September 4 in Gulfport. The SMG is made possible in Mississippi by Merrill Lynch, *The Clarion-Ledger*, BancorpSouth, Entergy, Enterprise Rent A Car, Trustmark Bank with support from Smith Barney and Regions Bank. The national program, which Mississippi is a part of, is supported by more than 600 securities firms, combined with. It is the only stock market simulation supported by the New York Stock Exchange and the Nasdaq Stock Market.

Teachers can attend no cost training programs to learn how to use the SMG and receive .5 continuing education units along with the curriculum. The first training program for the fall is scheduled for September 4 in Gulfport. Registration is available on-line at www.mscee.org, click on the Stock Market Game logo. Additional training programs are scheduled as follows:

- September 4—Gulfport
- September 5—Cleveland
- September 9—Jackson

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September 12—Starkville

The SMG, which is part of the Mississippi Department of Education social studies curriculum, is an online educational program used in thousands of classrooms nationwide to help teach math, social studies, business, economics and language skills. Students in grades four through 12 participate in teams and manage a simulated investment portfolio during the school year. Mississippi businesses sponsor the SMG and to date 5,438 teams of 25,819 have participated in this state-wide competition. Sponsors for the 2008-2009 SMG program are Merrill Lynch, *The Clarion-Ledger*, BancorpSouth, Entergy, Enterprise Rent A Car, Trustmark Bank with support from Smith Barney and Regions Bank.

For additional information about the MCEE, please contact: Pamela P. Smith, Ph.D., President, at 601-974-1325.

“Giving Our Children the Tools They Need to Succeed”