



*Food Brings Hope students at New Smyrna Beach High School and Westside Elementary School will graduate from a Wells Fargo banking program on January 11th and 12th. Each student will receive a \$50 savings bond.*

Fourth and fifth grade Westside Elementary students participated in an interactive Wells Fargo Bank program called “Hands on Banking” during the month of December. Students were taught how to budget, the importance of saving, how to use bank services to protect money, and how to be a smart shopper. Wells Fargo provided each student with a financial handbook and calculator.

The four seminars were presented by Wells Fargo employees LaToya Carey and Allyn Gildon. At the last seminar, students’ enthusiastically responded, “This is great! I will be able to use this to keep track of my money!” “I like how the ladies showed me real life examples!” “I can’t believe they are giving me a savings bond!”

A graduation celebration will take place at Westside Elementary School on Thursday, January 12th, 4:00 - 5:00pm., at which time the Campaign for Working Families, United Way of Volusia and Flagler Counties will present each child with a \$50 savings bond.

Twenty New Smyrna Beach High School students participated in “FDIC’s Money Smart for Young Adults” program in December. Topics focused on money management, savings and checking account basics, the importance of saving, and building and managing credit.

Tyna Lynn Hilton, a volunteer with Campaign for Working Families, presented the program’s eight seminars. Interactive lessons, using worksheets and calculators, were an important part of the program as students learned the basics of handling their money. Students received a financial handbook and calculator.

New Smyrna Beach High School Principal Jim Tager commented, “The Wells Fargo program provided our students with a practical understanding of banking, focusing on the mathematical applications that will be important in making life decisions as adults.”

A graduation celebration will take place at New Smyrna Beach High School on January, 11th, 2:30 pm, at which time the Campaign for Working Families, United Way of Volusia and Flagler Counties will present each child with a \$50 savings bond.

Food Brings Hope believes that equipping young people in their formative years with the basics in financial education will give them the knowledge, skills, and confidence they will need in managing their money.

Food Brings Hope is an initiative founded by local businesswoman Forough B. Hosseini. Mrs. Hosseini is dedicated to helping break the cycle of poverty for homeless and other economically disadvantaged children enrolled in Volusia County Public Schools. For additional information, please contact Food Brings Hope Executive Director, Beth Butera. [Beth@FoodBringsHope.org](mailto:Beth@FoodBringsHope.org) or (386) 882-1976