President’s Message

On May 7th, we hosted our 2015 Legislative Awards Recognition and 91st Anniversary Celebration Dinner in conjunction with our spring Board of Directors meeting in Arlington, where we released our 2015 Legislative Report Card. We were pleased to host over 250 guests as we saluted Virginia’s pro-business legislators for their work during the 2015 General Assembly session. That evening, we were pleased to hear from Speaker Bill Howell, who provided remarks on the 2015 General Assembly session. You can view Speaker Howell’s remarks here.

We also presented a special Education and Workforce Lifetime Achievement Award to Dr. Bob Templin. Dr. Templin served as President of Northern Virginia Community College for over a decade. During his tenure, his efforts in workforce training, education, economic development and immigration policy played a critical role in building a stronger, more prosperous Commonwealth. As the top issue outlined in Blueprint Virginia, we were very pleased to present Dr. Templin this award for his outstanding contributions to improving education and workforce development. Following the presentation of his award, Dr. Templin delivered remarks on the state of Virginia’s workforce. Click here to view his remarks.

2015 Graduating Class First to Graduate with Economics and Personal Finance Requirement

The Virginia Chamber of Commerce’s Blueprint Virginia recognizes financial education as a key component of education and workforce development, citing the need to “promote financial education so all students obtain basic economic and financial skills and support initiatives for teacher training in this area.”

Economics and personal finance education provides students with the essential life-skills they need regardless of their future vocation. Financial education teaches an economic way of thinking that helps individuals make better choices in all areas of their lives.

2015 high school graduates of public school systems in Virginia will be the first class to graduate with Virginia’s new required course in Economics and Personal Finance. As one of only two states with a full-credit high school requirement, Virginia has a competitive advantage over other states.

A recent Richmond Times Dispatch op/ed by Secretary of Commerce and Trade Maurice Jones and Dan Mortensen, Executive Director of the Virginia Council on Economic Education, highlights the economic benefits of having an economically and financially literate population. You can read the op/ed here.