

Description of Consortium Relationship

Successful initiatives require a strong leadership team. Our Leadership Team represents individuals who will lead, manage and operate day-to-day responsibilities. They will be supported by six additional support staff positions. Our Certification Team is dedicated to the success of financial literacy and is willing to commit their time to act as an active decision-making board. We will draw on their experience and expertise to ensure the effectiveness of the initiative. Our Partners represent leaders in the state of Ohio who have shared their passion for financial literacy and are willing to be a relational advocate for our initiative.

Financial Literacy Certification Team

Betsy DeMatteo – Ohio State University, Family Consumer Sciences Coordinator

Responsible for initiative communication, data collection and data reporting; Betsy leads financial literacy education out of the OSU extension offices located across the state. She has a vast knowledge of what educators need through research performed by OSU. Betsy is a leader concerning financial literacy in the State of Ohio.

Betsy DeMatteo

Jeremy Dunn M.Acc. – Life.Money, President

Responsible for training and material design and creation; Jeremy has been creating and building financial literacy resources for the past 3 years, since leaving JPMorgan Chase & Co. He shares content knowledge through applicable scenario learning that engages students. Jeremy continues to push the need for accountable and funded financial literacy in a way that creates measurable differences.

Jeremy Dunn

Brittani Dunn M.Ed. – Education consultant, Kagan Cooperative Learning, Ohio Dept. of Education and North Central Ohio Education Service Center

Responsible for educator development and student engagement; Brittani has traveled the country consulting with every kind of school system. Her ability to encourage educators and engage students makes her essential to the success of the project. She continues to be a catalyst for higher student and educator performance. Brittani is a teacher of teachers, continually producing positive change for school systems.

Brittani Dunn

Stanley Jackson – Former Ohio State University Quarterback, Big Ten Network Football Analyst, Lending Director Buckeye Nation Interim Inc. Bank Acquisitions

Responsible for public awareness and relations; Stanley has amazing relationships through many avenues in the state of Ohio and continues to be an advocate for financial literacy among minority and poverty groups. His relational ability to draw appropriate attention to the needs of schools without funding or a voice is timely for the challenges we face. Stanley creates opportunities for the right people to hear the right needs.

Stanley Jackson

Mary Jo Kohl – Ohio Department of Education, Family Consumer Sciences Director
Responsible for Ohio Education awareness and relations; Mary Jo continues to be an innovative leader that pushes her subject matter educators to the front of education practices. She promotes effective and cutting edge educational tools that improve resources for the specific needs of educators and students. Mary is a motivator and an innovator concerning subject matter leadership.

Mary Jo Kohl

Melanie Kwast CPA – Auditor for the Auditor of State of Ohio
Responsible for project accounting and spending; Melanie brings her skills concerning financial management and reporting. Her experience with the State Auditor's office has been specialized in Public School audits. She ensures the funding timing and expenses are made exactly as planned and in compliance with USAS practices. Melanie brings the catered accounting practices the Ohio Department of Education and State Auditors Office require.

Melanie Kwast

Mike McDaniel – Ohio Automobile Dealers Association Past President, President of McDaniel Automotive
Responsible for business operational oversight; Mike brings over 30 years of business operations experience. He operates a successful automotive business as well as several community initiatives. He is an essential part of the team; ensuring business operations are on task with the vision for the initiative. Mike continues to be a leader among business owners in Ohio.

Mike McDaniel

Cara Stevens – Counselor, Rushmore Academy Sponsored by Marion City Schools
Responsible for student engagement strategy; Cara works everyday with students who face incredible challenges away from school. She advocates for the wrap-around approach, or life skills that are an absolute need for quality of life, which school should resource to achieve. Cara has a strong grasp on what it takes to engage a student in the ownership of their education.

Cara Stevens

Steve Vanderhoff – Director, Rushmore Academy, Sponsored by Marion City Schools
Responsible for education oversight, Steve leads one of the most phenomenal schools in Ohio. The students he serves are not traditional students, but require a greater because of life and home challenges. In 4 years, Steve has been instrumental in growing Rushmore Academy from 4 to 205 students while maintaining very high graduation rates. Steve knows what students need and how to serve those needs.

Steve Vanderhoff