



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF GREATER BATON ROUGE

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BOYS & GIRLS CLUB AND REGIONS BANK TEACH TEENS TO BE FINANCIALLY RESPONSIBLE

Regions Bank Sponsors Money Matters Program for High School Club Members

BATON ROUGE – President Obama declared April Financial Literacy Month and has called upon Americans to boost their understanding of their personal finances. The Boys & Girls Club of Greater Baton Rouge is improving the character and citizenship of its members by teaching them the importance of financial responsibility and setting them on a path to great futures.

Layne Dodd used to be a student at Belaire High School. Now, he is Assistant Vice President of Special Assets at Regions Bank. He is giving back to his alma mater by volunteering at the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Baton Rouge's high school Club site that serves students from Belaire High School.

Dodd didn't know what to expect when he walked through the doors of the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Baton Rouge at Flannery BREC Park. Nearly 40 Club members greeted him with little to no interest in the topic he was there to speak to them about – financial literacy. Financial literacy isn't exactly top-of-mind for most 15 year olds. After nearly three months of instruction, Club members see the value of knowing how to save and spend money wisely.

The Boys & Girls Club program, Money Matters: Making Change Count, promotes financial responsibility and independence among Club members ages 13 - 18. Participants learn how to manage a checking account, create a budget, save and invest, start small businesses and pay for college.

Dodd's expertise provided members with basic financial information and implemented small-group activities to keep kids interested. This fun, attractive program contained practical tips to help teens learn how to balance a checkbook, create a budget and save and invest for college and retirement.

"My favorite part of teaching this program was passing on good, solid and practical financial advice to the students," said Dodd.

"The Boys & Girls Club believes that every child, no matter their circumstances, deserves a chance to succeed," said Pat Van Burkleo, President of the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Baton Rouge. "This partnership with Regions Bank shows that they are a company that not only gives financially, but gives time to really invest in young people."

About the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Baton Rouge

For 30 years, the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Baton Rouge has been helping kids BE GREAT, providing hope and opportunity for those who need it most. Today, the organization has Club sites in area schools and two park facilities serving more than 1,800 young people through Club membership and community outreach. Clubs offer members, ages 6-18, a wide variety of educational, recreational, cultural and social enrichment programs focusing on three priority outcomes: increased academic success, promoting healthy lifestyles and improving citizenship and character. It nurtures and enriches young lives by giving boys and girls opportunities for personal growth and achievement. By enabling children to reach their full potential, Boys & Girls Clubs help produce confident, educated and responsible members of our community. Boys & Girls Clubs can be found all across the country and on U.S. military bases throughout the world, providing young people with guidance-oriented character development programs conducted by trained, professional staff.

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