Leominster Credit Union helping bring financial literacy to area students

By <u>DANIELLE RAY</u> | <u>dray@sentinelandenterprise.com</u> | Sentinel & Enterprise March 16, 2023 at 5:55 a.m.

LEOMINSTER – Leominster Credit Union is helping to bring financial literacy education to nearly 4,000 students and residents in Worcester County through a partnership with Banzai, an award-winning financial literacy program that provides educational resources to over 100,000 teachers nationwide.

According to a press release, thanks to LCU's sponsorship students at seven schools and people in the surrounding community now have free access to Banzai, an online program and content library that allows users to practice real-world finance from the safety of their home or classroom. The schools include Fitchburg, Leominster, Clinton, and Wachusett Regional high schools and the Center for Technical Education Innovation at Leominster High School along with RFK Community Alliance in Lancaster and Quinsigamond Community College in Worcester.

Banzai incorporates real-life scenarios such as paying rent, auto insurance, saving for unexpected costs, college, etc. It is a tool available free of charge for teachers and students to use in their classrooms and students doing remote learning, and all the resources are available via any device that can access the internet.

"Kids get their own accounts, and they work through assignments that are based on real life," Banzai co-founder Morgan Vandagriff stated in the press release. "But because Leominster Credit Union is sponsoring it, local schools get it for free. More than ever, it's important that kids develop sound financial skills to prepare them for the real world, and Leominster Credit Union realizes that and they're doing something about it."

The press release went on to say that Banzai content builds a foundation of practical knowledge and gives students the tools to create a sound financial future. While students learn, teachers can easily monitor and grade their progress remotely. After finishing Banzai, students will know how to track where their money is and what it's for, recognize financial trade-offs, build a budget, and more. At a time when many are facing unprecedented financial challenges, these lessons are invaluable.

For more information visit leominstercu.teachbanzai.com.