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Minnetonka Teacher Emily Rosengren Receives Innovative Educator Award
1st Place award for innovative teaching of economics

Minneapolis, Minn. Minnetonka High School teacher Emily Rosengren was recognized for her innovative teaching by the Minnesota Council on Economic Education.

Rosengren, who teaches social studies including economics, received the first place 3M Innovative Economic Educator award.

There is an increasing national awareness of the importance of teaching economics and personal financial skills. Financial advisers and credit counselors often see people in difficult personal financial straits because they do not have a good understanding of personal finance and how our economic system works.

To improve her students understanding of economics, Rosengren developed a lesson plan that connects the students' world of today with the 1930s Great Depression. Emily's students learn how people "got-by" during the depression and how people "get-by" today. They keep a vocabulary journal that helps them learn new economic concepts and they complete a timeline that outlines the twentieth-century history of welfare programs. The class also participates in a food drive for a nearby food shelf to help increase their understanding of the issues of low-income and hunger.

To encourage teachers to teach economics, the Minnesota Council works with the 3M Foundation to sponsor the Innovative Educator Award for elementary and high school teachers who develop innovative learning activities. Rosengren received the award at the Minnesota Council's EconFest ceremony this week at the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis.

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