

P R E S S R E L E A S E

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BCIU To Host Wall Street West Financial Training

Reading, PA - The Berks County Intermediate Unit (BCIU) will host a training session by Wall Street West on Tuesday, January 22, 2008 from 8:30 a.m.–3 p.m. The training session is offered through interactive video conferencing to middle and high school teachers with hopes of interesting students to enter the financial services field.

The event is funded by a grant received by Misericordia University and the University of Scranton from Wall Street West to establish the Financial Literacy Institute for middle school and high school teachers as part of a Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development (WIRED) grant from the U.S. Department of Labor.

“The BCIU is proud to participate in this Internet2 project which allows educators from many locations to collaborate using videoconferencing,” said Susan Calvin, Media and Distancing Learning Coordinator for the BCIU. Internet2 provides the research and education community with a dynamic, innovative, and cost-effective hybrid optical and packet network.

Wall Street West is a non-profit partnership that is a federal- and state-funded initiative to develop a complete back-up solution for New York City financial institutions in the event of a disaster. Wall Street West aims to boost the financial services skill sets of northeastern Pennsylvania students and workers. Teachers in the region, however, lack the training and teaching materials needed to provide the proper instruction.

The teachers will be trained to teach selected financial economics skills to their students. The trained teachers will be able to serve as a resource for other teachers in their respective schools.

Teachers from Fleetwood Area, Kutztown Area, Hamburg Area, Muhlenberg, and Wilson will participate in the conference.