



Junior Achievement™

NEWS RELEASE

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Junior Achievement of Arkansas Announces New Education Partnership with Watson Chapel School District

Little Rock, AR- August 15, 2024 – Junior Achievement of Arkansas (JA) is thrilled to announce a new educational partnership with Watson Chapel School District for the 2024-2025 academic year. This collaboration will introduce a comprehensive education pathways program across the district's elementary, junior high, and high schools, focusing on financial literacy, workforce readiness, and entrepreneurship.

Beginning this school year, students from Watson Chapel's elementary to high school levels will benefit from JA's proven programs designed to inspire and prepare young people for economic success. The initiative aims to equip students with critical life skills and foster an entrepreneurial mindset, helping them to become productive, financially literate citizens ready to meet the demands of the 21st-century workforce.

"We are excited to partner with Watson Chapel School District to bring JA's impactful programs to their students," said Tonya Villines, President & CEO of Junior Achievement of Arkansas. "This partnership reflects our shared commitment to providing students with the tools they need to succeed in their personal and professional lives. We believe that by working together, we can create a brighter future for the students of Watson Chapel."

The education pathways program will include:

- **Financial Literacy:** Teaching students the importance of budgeting, saving, investing, and making informed financial decisions.
- **Workforce Readiness:** Preparing students with the skills needed to enter and succeed in the workforce, including communication, problem-solving, and teamwork.
- **Entrepreneurship:** Encouraging innovation and business acumen by guiding students through the process of starting and managing a business.

"Junior Achievement of Arkansas is more than a program; it's a partnership that will empower our scholars in financial literacy, entrepreneurship, and development in the 21st century. Through this collaboration, Watson Chapel School District will continue to prepare students for tomorrow's opportunities." - Dr. Keith McGee

The partnership between Junior Achievement of Arkansas and Watson Chapel School District represents a significant step forward in empowering the next generation of leaders and innovators. Together, we are paving the way for a more prosperous and dynamic Arkansas.

About Junior Achievement of Arkansas

Junior Achievement of Arkansas is the state's only organization dedicated to giving young people the knowledge and skills they need to own their economic success, plan for their future, and make smart academic and economic choices. Corporate and community volunteers deliver JA programs, and provide relevant, hands-on experiences that give students from kindergarten through high school knowledge and skills in financial literacy, work readiness and entrepreneurship. Additionally, Junior Achievement is expanding its reach to 18-to-25-year-olds to provide young adults with critical life skills, as well as to pre-K youth to ensure children get a solid head start. Today, JA reaches over 22,000 students per year across Arkansas. For more information, visit www.arkansas.ja.org

For more information about Junior Achievement of Arkansas and its programs, please visit Arkansas.ja.org.