

## Liberty Bank Leads Financial Education Fairs at Local Schools

April is Credit for Life Fair month at Liberty Bank, with dozens of employees taking part in “Credit for Life Fairs” to teach high school students how to manage their money. Middletown High School was first, with over 300 seniors participating in the fair on April 7. New London High School fielded 120 seniors for the fair on April 10. Another fair is scheduled on April 28 at Montville High School.

At the Credit for Life Fair, students are play out a scenario in which they 25 years old and working in their chosen professions. Armed with a monthly salary, a savings account, and a credit card, they must make decisions about all of their needs in life: housing, transportation, insurance, food, clothing, cell phones, furniture, etc. They also need to cope with life’s little surprises, such as a car repair, a root canal, or a winning lottery ticket. At the end of the half-day fair, the objective is to have a complete budget that ends up in the black.



*Liberty Banker Rosa Carrero presents Middletown High School students with a “reality check” – a card each student draws with a financial surprise (positive or negative) that needs to be accommodated in his/her budget.*



*Liberty employees Toral Maher (left) and Roxanne DuPerry assist a New London High School student in selecting the appropriate wardrobe for his profession.*

The two fairs were each staffed by over 60 volunteers from Liberty Bank and its partner organizations. In Middletown, these included Seasons Federal Credit Union, Sterling Realtors, Attention to Detail, Middlesex Community College, Middlesex United Way, and Citizens Bank. In New London, the partners included Chelsea Groton Bank, CorePlus Federal Credit Union, Dime Bank, Eastern Savings Bank, Sava Insurance, Bob’s Discount Furniture, Stop & Shop, Falvey’s, Reliance House, and United Way of Southeastern CT.