About Crystal Moore

Crystal Moore lives in Snohomish with her husband Vince and two daughters (Kaydence, 11, and Londyn, 8). She has been teaching in the Everett School District for 16 years. Having taught grades K-3, she has decided that 1st grade is her favorite and would love to stay there until she retires. When she can find some free time, she loves to fuse glass.

Tracy Godat, FEPPP Executive Director, sat down and asked Crystal some questions about her teaching experience and here’s what she had to say.

TG: What was your path to teaching?
CM: I decided when I was in 6th grade that I wanted to be a teacher. My brother was in kindergarten at the time and wasn’t having a good start to his school experience. I wanted to be a teacher to help kids love learning and be happy at school. I actually got to student teach with my kindergarten teacher.

TG: Since you are an elementary school educator – What is your method for putting personal finance into the classroom?
CM: That is tricky. I am still figuring it out – but I really like incorporating the Teaching Economics With Children’s Literature I received from FEPPP trainings. I like to make sure I hit on what money is, why it is important and how we use it every day. Also, why we have jobs, goal setting and how they all work together. I introduce entrepreneurship as well. When I learned that kids are very young when their spending habits are set, it really stuck with me that this is important.

TG: Why did you want to be a FEPPP Financial Fellow?
CM: I had come to trainings and felt really connected to the learning. That helped me when the opportunity presented itself. I feel I have always had good money skills, however, realizing that not everyone has these skills. I wasn’t convinced that first graders could be impacted by learning financial education but after the trainings I realized how much first graders could learn. I was excited about the opportunity to help other educators get on board.

TG: What would you tell teachers about incorporating personal finance, so they aren’t afraid to?
CM: Don’t over think it – it is so easy to think of it as another thing with a full plate, there are so many things we are already doing, with a few tweaks – it can make a big difference.