



GRANTS PASS MAIN OFFICE

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **Evergreen Federal Bank focuses on Financial Literacy**

Evergreen Federal Bank is pleased to have renewed their partnership with Banzai, an online financial literacy program that teaches kids how to prepare for financial scenarios that can impact their future. Banzai's curriculum is used by over 30,000 educators nationwide to teach students to be stewards of their money. Banzai partners with local sponsors like Evergreen Federal Bank to provide the program to teachers and students. This marks the third consecutive year that Evergreen has sponsored the program for schools located in Gold Hill, Rogue River, Grants Pass and Cave Junction.

"Evergreen is pleased to sponsor the Banzai Financial Literacy Program. Investing in programs that help our kids succeed is important to us," says Evergreen Federal Bank president Jeff Hyde. "Providing financial education is a significant way a community bank can help." Evergreen began sponsoring in 2015. "We looked into different programs and chose Banzai for their ability to offer programs at Elementary, Middle, and High School levels," says Jeff. "We liked that the program provides both printed and online interactive materials that educate in fun ways. Teachers tell us that their students are able to finish the program with a better understanding of the importance of budgeting, preparing for emergencies, and spending responsibly."

To date, Evergreen has sponsored over \$18,000 to provide 36 schools with access to the Banzai program. "When we receive thank you letters from students who have gained a better understanding about making smart financial decisions, we realize this is not just a program, it is a way to give back and support our youth." Melissa Gurr, a teacher at Hanby Middle School says, "As a 7th grade math teacher, if I am able to teach my students one thing they will remember it would be finance. Becoming financially aware and responsible is so important. This program does a great job of teaching the students age appropriate financial skills."

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