

## 2022 School Law Conference Presenters



**Rob Stutz**  
**OPI Chief Legal Counsel**

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Rob Stutz, Chief Legal Counsel, comes to OPI with legal experience in state and federal government, in private practice, and with a non-profit. His background includes 10+ years in education law, including as legal counsel for the Montana Board of Public Education, at the U.S. Department of Education headquarters, and with the Montana School Boards Association. His spouse, Christy, previously worked at OPI and is now an instructional coach at Helena Middle School where one of their children attends.



**Rick Wootton**  
**OPI Staff Legal Counsel**

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Rick Wootton, Legal Counsel, is licensed to practice law in Texas, Colorado & Montana and comes to OPI with 33 years of legal experience, some of which was in the federal government (retired Navy JAG officer), state government (several Texas state agencies & the Montana Department of Insurance), and private practice (first as an “insurance defense” attorney, then with several Colorado law firms that do battle with insurance companies). He and his wife, Rhonda, have 10 grandsons (4 of whom live in Helena - which was what initially brought them to Helena!). From their many years of visiting their kids/grandkids in Helena, Rick & Rhonda learned that Helena is a wonderful place to live and finally moved here from Colorado in 2018.



**Derek D'Angelo**  
**Curriculum Development Director**  
**Member of FEE Staff**

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Prior to joining the Foundation for Economic Education, Derek served his community as an Economics teacher at Eisenhower High School in Shelby Township, Michigan for 24 years. He is most proud of taking a struggling AP Economics program and seeing average scores increase from an average of 1.33 to 4.24 over his first 5 years teaching the course. Looking to scale his desire to help others, Derek accepted the role of President of the Michigan Council on Economic Education in 2015. Derek has brought innovative programming and professional development to Michigan teachers and students, highlighted by the Michigan Personal Finance Challenge, Money Smart Week Magic Shows, personal finance focused rock concerts, and an Invest in Girls program. Derek has made an impact across Michigan, leading the

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	<p>Economics state standard revision in 2019 and crafting legislation and bi-partisan support that led Michigan to become the 14<sup>th</sup> state to guarantee all students receive a course in Personal Finance prior to graduation. He has been recognized as the Excellence in Financial Literacy Education (EIFLE) National Educator of the Year and National Association of Economic Educators (NAEE) Rising Star in 2019 before being elected as President of the organization for 2021. He has also won the NAEE Abbejean Kehler Award in 2022 for his use of technology to improve delivery of economic education programs. Derek serves on boards for Funding the Future, Journal of Economics Teaching, and the Zoning Board of Appeals for the City of Sterling Heights.</p> <p>Derek is a proud graduate of the University of Michigan. He enjoys spending time with his family, exercising, and all sports. He has coached youth baseball and softball at just about every level. One of his greatest memories is the impromptu family trip over Labor Day to Philadelphia his family took to be there for his former player making his MLB debut. Derek is passionate about helping students apply an economic way of thinking to their lives through real-world examples and applications.</p>
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