

BERKELEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

TO: Dr. Brent Stephens, Superintendent
FROM: Baje Thiara, Associate Superintendent
Juan Raygoza, Vice-Principal BHS
DATE: September 5, 2019
SUBJECT: New Course: Personal Finance

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Berkeley High School is requesting Board approval for a semester-long course entitled *Personal Finance: Dream, Plan, Execute, Thrive*. This course has received UCOP “G” History/Social Science Elective credit.

This is a 12th-grade elective course with a focus on the National Standards for Financial Literacy, created by the Council for Economic Education. The purpose of this class is to give students a sound understanding of and contextual interaction with, personal finance as they prepare for the transition to adulthood. Units include completing a W2, getting a credit report, reading a lease and writing a check and balancing accounts, creating a financial plan and career exploration.

In this class, students will be required to keep a portfolio (electronic or paper) that documents of future goals with detailed plans and progress towards execution as they progress through each unit. For each unit has a specific portfolio requirements. The portfolio will be collected and assessed after each unit.

A sample of some of the course units is as follows; Unit 1: Designing the Life You Want to Live. Before students can start thinking about their financial literacy, they need to dream, define their purpose and set some goals around both of these items. Dreams, purpose, and goals are the who, what, where, when and why. Financial planning is the how. Unit 2: Earning Income & Human Capital includes career exploration, analysis of evolving job market, college & trade schools, a study of entrepreneurship, cover letter, resume & interview skills. Unit 3: Buying Goods & Services includes money mindsets, needs vs. wants, spending, budgeting, and taxes. Unit 4: Banking & Savings, Unit 5: Using Credit, Unit 6: Financial Investing, Unit 7: Protecting & Insuring, Unit 8: Thrive (Your Financial Plan).

POLICY/CODE:

Ed Code 51054
Board Policy 6141

FISCAL IMPACT

None

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Approve *Personal Finance* to be included in the course catalog for the 2020-2021 school year.