

Senator Wielechowski,

I am writing in support of SB99, an Act establishing a financial literacy education course for public schools.

The Anchorage School District is boldly committed to transforming how we prepare students for Life, College and Career Readiness. SB 99 is in perfect alignment with Anchorage School Board Goal #3 which is "to increase the number of students who will graduate from high school Life, College and/or Career Ready". Financial Literacy is a major component of this goal. You can review the components of each our Goals and Interim Goals here:

https://www.asdk12.org/cms/lib/AK02207157/Centricity/Domain/1184/Jan2023_Expanded-BoardGoals-Guardrails-Flier_Accessible.pdf

For background, I'd like to share some of ASD's story on life readiness outcomes for students and how the ASD is currently addressing the critical Financial Literacy skill (Interim Goals 3.1). During the Anchorage School Board's public strategic planning processes that were held in 2019 and 2020, the Anchorage community was crystal clear in its vision for education. That vision included Reading Proficiency, Math Proficiency, and College, Career & Life Readiness (CCL). Simply put, the community's vision was that our students would graduate from high school Life, College and/or Career Ready. To this end, in 2020, the district began a curricular review and revision process that ensured that every student in grades 9-12 had access to a semester-level Financial Literacy class prior to graduation. To achieve this, the district revised the state **required 'Economics and Consumer Economics'** course to include a Financial Literacy component. This change ensured that the ASD Freshman class of August 2020, is on track to complete a Financial Literacy course by the time they graduate in Spring 2024. I am happy to provide more information on this course revision.

Thank you for championing a bill that will play a vital role in preparing ALL of Alaska's students to become engaged, productive members of our diverse and culturally rich community. While ASD is at the forefront of financial literacy, all students in Alaska will benefit from SB99.

Sincerely and In Service,
Margo Bellamy, President
Anchorage School Board
907 742 1107 ext. 7
bellamy_margo@asdk12.org

Dena'inaq e'nen'aq' gheshtnu ch'q'u yeshtu. (Dena'ina)

I live and work on the land of the Dena'ina. (English)



Anchorage School District
Educating All Students for Success in Life