

Dear Alaska Legislators,

My name is Brielle Rice, and I am a seventh grader at Girdwood K-8. I believe that personal finance is incredibly important to students, especially middle and high schoolers, because it will teach us about how to be successful budgeters, investors and savers.

For example, my sixth grade teacher, Mrs. Rutherford, taught us a lot about financial literacy. We read a book called *The Psychology of Money* as well as played educational games, learned about investing, and understood how to create and maintain a budget. It didn't stop there, though! Mrs. Rutherford also taught us the importance of universities, colleges and trade schools. We learned about different colleges, how to apply for colleges, jobs, internships and financial aid, and how to do well at a job.

Additionally, my math teacher this year taught us some financial literacy skills too. This year, I am taking Algebra 1, and that is a ninth grade math course. To make it easier, my teacher increased real life situations. Most of them were about personal finance! That meant that having more personnel finance in schools can really help people understand many topics.

That is why financial education is so important for students to learn. It gave us vital skills to take on the real world and be a successful adult, and it also opens up new doors for continued learning.

Thank you so much for taking our opinions into consideration,

Brielle Rice