

(2/14/24 District Administrator's Corner Article)

As this month is Career and Technology Education (CTE) Month, we will feature the three CTE areas during February to raise awareness of the role they have in preparing students for college and career success. The River Valley School District is very proud of the diverse courses we offer and the incredible staff in this department.

When students are involved with CTE in high school, it improves graduation rates, engagement, and employability skills for them to enter our community. Approximately two-thirds of all Wisconsin high school students have taken one course in the CTE field. CTE provides our students pathways to new opportunities.

This week we are highlighting **Business Education**. This area is categorized into two concentrations: business courses and information technology.

Consider young women and men that hope to join a career in high-skilled marketing, accounting, real estate, finance, or computers– we offer courses to build a strong foundation and expand their knowledge. Courses offered this year included: Computer Business Applications, Digital Marketing and Other Media, Employability Skills, Financial Literacy, Accounting I and 2 and 3, Personal Finance, Youth Apprenticeship in Business or Healthcare, Keyboarding, Middle School Computers, Middle School Business Skills, Middle School Careers Class.

It is rare for a district our size to maintain these diverse offerings. These opportunities come with established relationships with local employers and years of experience with our staff. Heidi Radel, Lori Hoffman, and Cheryl Ross are creative and have worked very hard to build relevant classroom experiences and Youth Apprenticeship opportunities for our students.

Recently, the State of Wisconsin has recently adopted:

*“Section 1. 118.33 (1) (a) 1. f. of the statutes is created to read:
118.33 (1) (a) 1. f. At least 0.5 credit of personal financial literacy that includes financial mindset, education and employment, money management, saving and investing, credit and debt, and risk management and insurance.”*

The River Valley School District had previously adopted a requirement for this course, so we are ahead of the game.

Our global, state, and local economy relies on young adults who fully understand the complexity of financial literacy. This graduation requirement emphasizes the importance of high school students choosing courses in this department as a wise investment for their future, no matter their career pathway. The State of Wisconsin's motto is “Forward,” reflecting our state's drive to be a national leader. The River Valley School District is proud of this important work and hopes to continue to be a leader in our region.

Sincerely,

Loren Glasbrenner, District Administrator
River Valley School District