



## **DRIVING QUESTION**

How can we take the math we've learned in school and use it to master the art of managing money, planning finances, and saving up for all the exciting things life after graduation has to offer—from dream vacations to first apartments and beyond?

## **PROJECT SUMMARY**

Students will individually research the career that they would like to pursue after college. They will need to determine the schooling required, calculate loan payments, retirement investments, taxes, housing, car, food, etc...to build a budget based on their salary. Students will then be grouped by program area to complete a realistic budget for a "client" that is from their program area. They will work with the marketing classes and personal finance classes as the needs arrive as well as receive feedback.

## **REAL-WORLD CONTEXT**

These financial skills and knowledge are pieces of information that many students have no clue about and how it will affect their salary or how to begin to understand them. Students will determine what their life will look like post graduation whether that be from WTCC or a 4 year university. They have to be realistic about their living arrangements, spending and balancing that with loan payments. They will present their information in a presentation format. They will also then become financial advisors and help out a client determine a realistic budget based on a given salary and student loans.

## **PRODUCTS & AUDIENCE**

Students will share their findings via a presentation for both components of this project and will present their findings to lower classmen.

## **STUDENT REFLECTIONS**

- "I actually shared it with family members and they explained to me how the PBL truly teaches life, and they also helped me plan out what I want to do."
- "Researching the career choices and building ideas in order to structure pathway was smart."
- "It gave me a visual of how my future after high school is potentially going to look like."
- "It prepared us for our future careers by allowing us to research our future salaries and expenses in school."
- "It helped me fully flesh out what I want to be in the future and what I want to do."

## **NC PORTRAIT OF A GRADUATE SKILLS GAINED**



**COLLABORATION**



**COMMUNICATION**



**LEARNER'S MINDSET**



**CRITICAL THINKING**



**ADAPTABILITY**



**PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY**

## **TEACHER REFLECTION**

"I will not spread it out over the semester next time so I don't feel the crunch for time. It started off better with their research piece. They seemed to really buy into writing about their career and education goals beyond high school."