

Dear Parent:

Did you ever hear yourself say, "I sure wish someone had taught me about money when I was in school"? Well, this is just what is happening with your teen in Consumer Economics.

For the next several weeks, we will be going through the NEFE High School Financial Planning Program® (HSFPP), a nationally known money management program for teens that has been used with millions of students since it was created in 1984. We'll cover basic money management topics such as budgeting, borrowing, earnings, investing, financial services, identity protection, and insurance.

Many young people today are finding themselves in serious financial problems very early and finding themselves in a debt cycle that will be hard to reverse. In the meantime, important life goals are not being saved for. The saddest part of this is that it could all have been avoided with some simple and sound money management skills.

Fortunately, learning how to manage money isn't rocket science. If you have a plan for spending, live on less than you bring in, save for things, have an emergency fund, understand credit, protect yourself with insurance, and link your financial plan to your life plan, you'll be well on the way toward financial security.

If you are game, you have a critical role to play. Your teen is likely to ask you questions about some of these topics we'll be covering. I hope you will take time to share your experiences and lessons learned about managing money.

You can learn more about the program at the NEFE HSFPP website (www.hsfpp.org). The link is available on the Consumer Economics page of my website (www.lcmrschooldistrict.com/wilsonm/Consumer.php). Your teen will use the site to download class materials, respond to polls, and access tools to help deepen his or her personal finance knowledge and money skills. You can also register to login to the site as a "student" to view the same resources.

I look forward to working with you to equip your teen for mindful money management decisions and behaviors.

Sincerely,
Mr. Wilson