Personal Finance

**Teacher**: Mr. Wagner **Website**: <http://mrjwags.weebly.com>

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**Text**: Personal Financial Literacy, Prentice Hall and Foundations in Personal Finance, Dave Ramsey

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Algebra 2 and Geometry

**Extra Help Hours:** I can make myself available before or after school, B lunch or 5th hour to provide support. If you need extra help at any time, please arrange an appointment and time to meet.

**Welcome to Personal Finance:** This course is designed to explore your financial world and future using consumer math. Basic consumer math skills will be reviewed and emphasized through instructor-guided investigations. Students will then compile their own analysis from something outside the classroom and examine it using personal finance ideas.

# Course Description:

1. Overview of Personal Finance
What is personal financial planning? Benefits of good financial decision making. What are you planning for? Sources of information.
2. The Financial Plan
What is a financial plan? The components of a financial plan. Goals and goal setting.
3. Financial Decision making
Cash flow and your financial future. Decision-making process.
4. Budgets and balance sheets: your personal finance statements
Creating a budget, personal balance sheet, budgeting and your financial plan.
5. Careers and education
Determining a career path. Sources of career information. Getting the skills you need. Job application process.
6. Paying Taxes
Tax basics, understanding payroll taxes, filing taxes, taxes and your financial plan.
7. Insuring your health and your life
The importance of health insurance, health insurance features and terms, life insurance, getting insurance.
8. The Economy and you
Economics and your financial plan, demographic features, factors in the larger economy.
9. Obtaining and protecting your credit
The basics of credit for consumers, building good credit, threats to your credit: identity theft.
10. Personal loans and purchasing decisions
Personal loans, financing a home, financing your education, financing your car.
11. Credit cards and other forms of credit
How credit cards work, credit card features, tips on using credit cards, other risky credit arrangements.
12. Banking procedures and services
Banks and financial institutions, banking basics, other banking services, deposit insurance, the Federal Reserve and the banking system.
13. Methods of Saving
Interest and your savings, types of bank accounts, retirement savings options.
14. Methods of investing
Why invest? Investing in stocks, investing in bonds, mutual funds, other ways of investing.
15. Planning for the future
Time value of money, managing your investments, retirement planning and time value concepts, estate planning.

You should have the following items for class each and every day to be prepared:

* Pencil (sharpened before class, #2 preferred)
* Laptop (will have online assignments)
* Textbook
* A folder to keep assignments in
* Completed assigned work (your receipts)
* Calculator
* Loose-leaf lined paper/notebook
* Yourself on a daily basis
* Other materials may be called for on certain days

**CLASSROOM RULES AND EXPECTATIONS**:

1. Respect: Yourself, peers, staff and equipment.
2. Come to class prepared, ready to participate and learn. When the bell rings students are to be in their seats prepared with the necessary materials. They will stay in their seats until dismissed by the teacher.
3. Come into the classroom “unplugged” each day. A cell phone stop light system will be utilized this year to indicate when and how cellphones can be used.
	1. Beginning of class will be a RED ZONE-NO CELL PHONES during learning time (discussion, lecture, group work, etc).
	2. When instruction can utilize cell phones, it will be a YELLOW ZONE-phones can be used for educational purposes.
	3. When it is work time, it will be a GREEN ZONE and students may use cell phone as they work at teacher’s discretion.
	4. If cell phones become a problem, they will be confiscated for the hour, sent to the office, and parent contact.
	5. CELL PHONES WILL BE COLLECTED DURING A TEST! If a cell phone “appears” during a test, the student will fail the test.
4. No passes first or last ten minutes of class.
5. If you need to leave the classroom, student will turn in their cellphone to the teacher, one person can use the pass at a time. If excessive passes are used, passes will be limited.
6. One voice talking at a time during lecture, presentations or debates, this includes announcements!
7. Be an active part of the learning process and do not interfere or distract others from classroom learning.
8. Students will use time appropriately in class and stay on task.
9. Students may have beverages with a lid and snacks (food that doesn’t need utensils or make a mess) in class. This is a privilege and may be revoked if it becomes a nuisance.

**Consequences**

1. The teacher look, and/or verbal warning of what is expected behavior.
2. Hallway conversation, discuss issue, plan to resolve, return to class.
3. ***Removed***-Student will sit/stand in the hall or sent to another classroom for the duration of the hour. They will also receive a zero on any in class assignment. The student will be responsible for any notes covered in class and will have the parent sign a letter stating that they were sent in the hallway for disrupting class, student will contact parent via text or phone call explaining the situation, teacher follow up if needed.
4. Detention-lunch, after school or before school, parent contact.
5. Write up and to the office.

**Course Requirements:**

The student’s grade for each ten-week marking period will be determined by using the following:

* **Test**- may be given over combined units (i.e. personal money matters, could encompass units 1-3 or even 1-4—students will be informed of tests beforehand). NO CELL PHONES ARE TO BE USED DURING A TEST; IE NO CALCULATOR FUNCTION! If you are absent the day of a test you must make an appointment to take it on the day of your return, it must be taken within 2 days before or after school, or have made other arrangements. If an appointment is not made on the day of your return your test grade may be lowered.
* **Quiz**-we will have a quiz during each unit/chapter of study. Some of these quizzes may be done on online. If you are absent the day of a quiz you must reschedule it in the same manner as a test or you will receive a zero.
* **Articles-** You will be responsible for an article dealing with a personal finance issue each month. The article will need to be turned in and you will write a brief summary of it as well as how it relates to consumer math and/or the given topic.
* **Notes**-may be assigned from lecture or discussions, checked by pop quizzes—which you can use ***your*** notes and homework on, or a standalone assignment reviewing a specific topic.
* **Classwork**-will be due in class and content will be graded on how many are right or wrong. Work must be shown to earn full credit when dealing with math and/or story problems.
* **Homework**- If you are assigned classwork and it is not completed, then it becomes homework. Homework will be assigned specifically from time to time to be completed outside of class but generally most items should be completed in class if using time effectively.
* **Technology**-The class will be utilizing technology as much as possible through Edmodo.com, OneNote, Office 365, or other means that are appropriate. Students should have their laptops with them each day. If a student is absent, check the learning management system or webpage for that day’s assignment.
* **Exam**- will be 20% of your overall grade. It may be a standard test or a portfolio style project, or both. You may be determining the possible future you and researching the costs and calculations for your future life. All notes and work should be kept until the file exam to help review for final exam/project.
* **Late Work, Missing Assignments, and Zeroes:**FORMATIVE ASSESSMENTS: Assignments will be accepted until the time a summative assessment is given. At that time, all missing assignments will be given a zero. Work completed and turned in as part of the requirement for a Summative Retake, will be accepted, but not graded.

SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENTS: All assessments must be taken. Zeroes will only be given for summative assessments under the following conditions:

* + 1. The student earned a grade of zero on the assessment and did not qualify and/or chose not to retake the assessment and/or earned a grade of zero on the retake of the assessment.
		2. After given an opportunity to turn in or take the summative assessment at a later date due to circumstances, the student failed to do so.

**GRADING PHILOSOPHY**—as found in the Student/Parent Handbook for Richmond Community Schools:

All Richmond Community Public Schools grading and reporting will support the learning process and encourage student success. Grades measure a student’s mastery of the course content expectations. These guidelines emphasize summative assessments.  The final grade is determined by at least 80% summative and at most 20% formative.

**Grading**

* Quarter grades will be calculated based on total points using the building 80/20 policy. Summative assessments such as tests, projects, or reports will be worth 80% and formative assessments such as classwork, quizzes, homework will be worth 20% of the grade.
* Semester grades will be based on the following weight distribution:

1st quarter 40% 2nd quarter 40% Final Exam 20%

Standard grading (90-100=A, 80-89=B, 70-79=C, 60-69=D, 0-59=F) scale will be used for grading.

**Assessment Categories:**

* SUMMATIVE assessments demonstrate the student’s knowledge of a subject after instruction. Summative assessments include tests, projects, products, and demonstrations. *All students must complete a summative assessment.*
* FORMATIVE assessments demonstrate the student’s progress in mastering content during the course of instruction. Formative assessments include homework, daily quizzes, and inquiry activities. *Formative assessments will be accepted until the day of the Summative assessment.*

**Summative Assessment Retakes:**

Summative assessment retakes are available to all students, with the exception of AP classes, based on the following principles and process:

* Students in grades 9-12 may retake 50% of summative assignments per quarter. Each quarter will have approximately four summative assignments, so students can retake two of them.
* The higher score is the only score of record.
* Students must follow the retake process:
1. A written request by the student including an explanation for requesting the retake.
2. The student’s demonstration of effort to attain mastery learning which includes test corrections and caught-up homework.
	* 1. Caught-up homework is defined as turning in at least 80% of formative assignments by their original due date and having all assignments turned in before the summative assessment.
		2. Formative assignments will still be accepted for a grade up to the date of the summative assessment, but will not be considered part of the 80% if turned in after their original due date.
		3. Effort must be made on ALL formative assessments. Turning in incomplete work does not demonstrate an effort to attain mastery learning. If work is turned in uncompleted it will not count towards the 80% of formative assignments turned in by their original due date and will have to be completed before the summative assessment to be eligible for a retake.
3. The teacher’s approval for retake following steps 1 and 2.
4. The student’s arranging with the teacher for the retake.
5. Completion of the retake within a reasonable time (teacher discretion) frame, e.g., within 1.5 weeks of the original summative assessment.
* Retakes should be in a different format from the original summative assessment.
* End-of-semester exams cannot be retaken.

Please check PowerSchool on a regular basis to stay current on your student’s progress, missing work or overall grade. My gradebook will be updated throughout the week and up to date Monday mornings.

**Parent contact information:**

I use these to keep in touch with you about your student not only for unpleasant situations, but for good things as well A on test, great attitude/work ethic, improvement, etc. My contact of choice is e-mail because of the convenience to respond throughout the day, but I also check my voicemail daily. Feel free to contact me at 727-3225 ext.#3203 or by e-mail at jwagner@richmond.k12.mi.us.

Education really sinks in when you can apply classroom learning to the real world. Please let me know if you have a possible learning experience in the area of business, marketing, technology or other area that could be a great opportunity for Richmond High School students.

Thank you for reviewing this with your student. I am looking forward to a great school year.

 Mr. James Wagner

**Please complete, sign and return the separate signature and quick links sheet provided in class by the second Friday of school.**