

North Allegheny School District

**Business, Computers, &
Information Technology (BCIT)**

**Curriculum Review
Presentation**

April 9, 2025

*Preparing all students for success in a
changing world*



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Presentation Structure

- ❖ Act 35
- ❖ Curriculum Review Process - Key Milestones
- ❖ BCIT Major Recommendations
- ❖ Action Plan and Implementation Timeline
- ❖ Supporting the District's Strategic Comprehensive Plan
- ❖ Concluding Comments & Discussion



Act 35 of 2023

which amended Section 1551 of the Public School Code of 1949 (Act 35)



- ❖ [Act 35 \(2023\)](#) requires all school districts, beginning with the 2026-2027 school year and in each school year thereafter, to provide a **mandatory course in personal financial literacy** with a value of at least one-half credit. Students shall be required to complete the course once during grades nine, ten, eleven, or twelve (Pennsylvania General Assembly, 2025).

The proposed PA Academic Standards

- ❖ Personal Finance Fundamentals
- ❖ Income
- ❖ Spending
- ❖ Saving & Investing
- ❖ Risk and Insurance
- ❖ Credit



Act 35: Frequently Asked Questions

Which students are required to complete the course?

Act 35 requires students in all school entities and nonpublic schools to complete the mandatory personal finance course.

In what graduating class does this requirement go into effect?

The timing of student completion of the mandatory course may vary from one LEA to another depending on locally adopted policies.

Can a student "test out" of personal finance?

No. Act 35 requires students to complete the personal finance course.

Can the course be taught at the middle level for high school credit?

No. Act 35 of 2023 specifically states that the course must be completed while a student is in ninth, tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade.

How can students with IEPs meet the course requirements?

For students receiving modifications and adaptations to the general education curriculum per their IEP, the content of the course may be adapted and/or modified to complete the requirements.



BCIT Curriculum Review Process - Key Milestones

- A. Reflected on past updates and completed a SWOT Analysis.
Key priorities emerged.
- B. Met with Kevin Mauro (Pennsylvania Department of Education) to further understand the requirements for the Financial Literacy course.
- C. Met with North Allegheny's Special Education Department to discuss meeting the needs of all students.



BCIT Curriculum Review Process - Key Milestones

- D. A successful Stakeholder Engagement Town Hall brought together over 25 key representatives, including community bankers, university professors, financial literacy advocates, past North Allegheny students, parents, and local business representatives, alongside staff members from Administration, BCIT, Math, FCS and School Counseling.
- E. Met with representatives of the Administration and School Counseling departments to discuss the Personal Financial Literacy Pathway.



Major Recommendations

- I. Adopt the updated **BCIT Department Philosophy**.
- II. Implement the required **PA Financial Literacy Course**, taught by members of the BCIT Department.
- III. **Enhance the BCIT Curriculum** at the high school and middle school while exploring new potential opportunities for elementary students.



Recommendation II - Personal Financial Literacy

Implementation of the required PA Financial Literacy Course, taught by members of the BCIT Department.

- ❖ The 2026-2027 North Allegheny Program of Studies will be revised to incorporate this new graduation requirement.
- ❖ Beginning with the graduating class of 2030, Personal Financial Literacy will be a mandatory course.
- ❖ Students will complete the requirement in either their 10th or 11th grade year.

Recommendation III - Enhance the BCIT Curriculum High School

Plan for the integration of Personal Financial Literacy to the BCIT Program of Studies.

- ❖ Update and revise the BCIT course offerings.
- ❖ Streamline the *Introduction to Business* course.
- ❖ Potential for consolidating courses into comprehensive courses.
 - Example: *Entrepreneurship and Business Management*
 - Integrating core concepts
 - Identifying thematic overlaps
 - Emphasizing PBL that applies principles from multiple disciplines.

Recommendation III - Enhance the BCIT Curriculum Middle School

- ❖ Expand the existing middle school curriculum
 - ❖ Modify the name of the course from Keyboarding to BCIT 6
 - ❖ Ensure a consistent classroom environment.
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- ❖ Expanding the curriculum beyond touch typing (keyboarding) would include:
 - Digital literacy, digital citizenship, as well as digital wellness and safety.
 - Proficient use of **word processing** tools.
 - Mastery of **spreadsheet** applications.
 - Effective utilization of **presentation** tools.

	2025-2026	2026-2027	2027-2028	2028-2029	2029-2030
		PFL at NA: Must be 'implemented' via the Program of Studies.	10 th grade students filtered into Personal Financial Literacy.	11 th grade students filtered into Personal Financial Literacy.	First North Allegheny graduating class where everyone took PFL.
Continue to offer Personal Financial Literacy (PFL) as an elective for 11 th and 12 th grade students.					
PFL offered at NAI as pilot (limit 2 sections - 10 th grade only).					
New Introduction to Business curriculum first semester. Continue PFL content second semester.					
10 th grade students filtered into PFL.					
Introduction to Business switches from FY to SEM course.					
Consolidate of some NASH offerings.					
11 th grade students filtered into PFL.					
Consolidation of more NASH offerings.					
Expand the existing middle school curriculum and rename to BCIT 6					



STRATEGIC COMPREHENSIVE 2024-2029 PLAN



GOALS

- 1 ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**
Ignite academic success, exceeding regional and national standards by combining innovative teaching methods and rigorous curricula that challenges students to stretch their potential.
- 2 CONTINUOUS LEARNING**
Commitment to relevant, enriching staff development that fosters a culture of excellence for all.
- 3 EMPOWERING STUDENTS**
Promote a school environment where students feel connected and their voices are encouraged, heard, and valued.
- 4 FACILITIES for the FUTURE**
Invest in the maintenance and development of facilities and grounds that create future-ready learning spaces, reflecting our community pride and dedication to excellence in academics, arts, athletics and activities.
- 5 SAFETY & WELLNESS**
Cultivate a safe educational environment where all students, staff and families feel secure, welcomed, and respected.

In alignment with the District Strategic Plan, the BCIT recommendations support the following performance indicators.

GOALS

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

1.3 Increasing student and parent agreement that classes are rigorous and challenging. **Project-based learning and real-life business experiences** deepen academic rigor and relevance, helping students stretch their potential.

1.4 Preparing students for life beyond North Allegheny. **Financial literacy education equips students with essential money management skills, empowering them to navigate the complexities of adulthood and build a secure financial future.**

1.5 Embedding collaboration, creativity, communication, and critical thinking into learning. **Hands-on, project-based experiences naturally foster these skills, encouraging students to innovate and solve real-world problems.**

GOALS

CONTINUOUS LEARNING

2.1 Provide meaningful and relevant professional development for all employee groups within the organization. ***BCIT staff will have the opportunity to attend workshops designed for implementing the new Personal Financial Literacy course.***

2.3 Unlocking best practices and innovative strategies for staff. ***Expanding BCIT resources and integrating evolving business practices keeps educators at the forefront of industry trends, enhancing their ability to guide students effectively.***

2.5 Provide targeted training to 9-12 staff to become accepted and actively participate in local, regional, and/or nationally recognized professional organizations that embody innovative educational practices. ***Such organizations allow for a network of professional support.***

GOALS

EMPOWERING STUDENTS

3.3 Encouraging student participation in activities. *Local business partnerships and expanded BCIT opportunities could inspire students to join related clubs (DECA & FBLA) or competitions, enriching their school experience.*

3.4 Increasing student connection to school. *Introducing BCIT concepts at the elementary level fosters early interest and belonging, which can grow throughout their educational journey.*

Questions and Comments

*Preparing all students for success
in a changing world*

