

DATE: June 1, 2022

TO: Kevin Etue, Churchill High School
Pete Mazzoni, Stevenson High School
Andrew Pesci, Franklin High School

FROM: Christine Fankell
7-12 ELA and Social Studies Curriculum Coordinator

SUBJECT: Textbook Recommendations for Economics

This memo recommends the adoption of *Economics Alive! The Power to Choose* as a print and digital resource for the high school Economics course. The details below provide more information about the adoption process and rationale for choosing *Economics Alive! The Power to Choose*.

Committee Members

Kelly Granowicz, CHS
Mary Helen Diegel, FHS
Rick Mestdagh, FHS
Amanda Feheley, SHS

Recommended Materials for Adoption

Economics Alive! The Power to Choose print and digital materials from TCI Publishers

Cost proposal is attached.

Sales Representative: Brian Thomas
Teachers' Curriculum Instruction (TCI)
Email: bthomas@tciteach.com
Office: 800-497-6138 ext.175

Summary of Course

Economics is a one-semester course based on the Michigan Social Studies Standards and is a required component of the Michigan Merit Curriculum. In Economics, students gain an understanding of the principles of economics as well as personal finance.

Overview

Our current economics textbook was published in 2010 along with digital licenses. The digital licenses became obsolete two years ago. It was determined that a new curriculum resource was needed based on the publication date of our current textbook as well as the need for digital resources.

Evaluation Process

With representation from each high school, Economics teachers met during the 2021-22 school year. The committee followed the textbook adoption procedures outlined in the Board Policy of Livonia Public Schools

and ended the year with a recommendation to adopt the print and digital resources for *Economics Alive! The Power to Choose*.

Shared Vision

The committee established a shared vision for social studies resources:

- Curriculum driven by compelling/essential questions
- Resources beyond the text to support varying perspectives
- Instructional resources to support reading and writing in social studies
- Resources to build an understanding of different perspectives
- Resources that highlight non-dominant populations and their strengths
- Guidance on making real-life connections between content and local culture

Evaluation Criteria

We evaluated the textbooks using a rubric with the following criteria:

- Alignment to Michigan Social Studies Standards
- Opportunities to build content knowledge and vocabulary
- Scaffolding to support reading comprehension
- Questions and tasks that require textual evidence, critical thinking, and writing in responses to texts
- Culturally responsive
- Formative and summative assessments
- Digital platform

Textbooks Considered

Understanding Economics (McGraw-Hill)

Economics (Savvas Learning)

Economics (Houghton Mifflin)

Essentials of Economics (Norton)

Economics Alive! The Power to Choose (TCI)

Evaluation Rubric Outcome

The results of the rubric rating showed the book, *Economics Alive! The Power to Choose*, to be the frontrunner. This resource was chosen because it is student-friendly, easy to use, and includes opportunities for hands-on activities, simulations, and inquiry-based projects.

Student Response

Students favored TCI's *Economics Alive! The Power of Choice* over Norton's *Essentials of Economics*. Comments included praise for the organization, bolded vocabulary, visuals, readability, and real world applications found in the text.

Professional Development Needs

A professional development session is recommended for the start of the school year to familiarize teachers with the digital platform. For additional information on the adoption recommendation, contact Christine Fankell at x42192.

CC

Theresa O'Brien

Dan Willenborg

HS SS Department Chairs