## STUDENT BACKGROUND SURVEY (SBS)

## **Instructions**

Thank you, in advance, for responding to the following questions. This instrument is being administered as part of a long-term research project by WestEd to understand strategies for improving high school economics. WestEd, a research, development, and service agency, works with education and other communities to promote excellence, achieve equity, and improve learning for children, youth, and adults.

This survey is designed to gather your background information, including interest in economics, classroom learning experience, and self-rated learning skills. **There are no right or wrong answers, and you will not be graded on this**. It will take you about 10 minutes to complete it. All your answers will remain confidential and will be used only for statistical purposes.

Please read each question and indicate the response choice (see example 1) or the point on the scale (see example 2) that best represents your position. Select only one (unless otherwise specified) using " $\sqrt{}$ " for each statement.

Example 1

	Never	A few times a semeste r	Once or twice a month	Once or twice a week	Almost everyday
How often do you watch TV news					
Example 2	Not At A	All		Ve:	ry Much →

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I enjoy learning Math.....

## **Student Background Survey (SBS)**

1.	Student name: (first)	(last)				
2.	Student ID:					
3.	Grade level:					
4.	Teacher name: (first)	(last)				
5.	Period #:					
6.	Your gender:	□ Male				
7.	Your ethnicity (check one or more):	<ul><li>☐ Female</li><li>☐ American Indian or Alaska Native</li><li>☐ Asian</li></ul>				
		☐ Black or African American				
		☐ Hispanic or Latino				
		☐ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander				
		□ White				
		☐ Other (Specify)				
8.	What language do you usually	□ English				
	speak at home?	☐ English and another language				
		☐ A language other than English				
9.	Do people in your family speak non-English language at home?	□ No				
		□ Seldom				
		☐ Half the time				
		□ Mostly				
LO.	Is reading or writing English ever a problem for you?	☐ Yes, reading or writing in English is difficult for me.				
		☐ Sometimes reading or writing in English is not a problem for me				
		☐ No, reading or writing in English is not a problem for me.				

11.	How much do you LIKE each of the fol subjects?	lowing	I don't like it very much				I like it very much
a.	Math						
b.	Science						
C.	English						
d.	Social Studies						
12.	How often does each of these things h your classes at this school?	appen in	Never	Once or twice a semester	Once a month	Once a week	Almost every day
a.	My friends and I talk outside of class abowe are learning in class.	ut what					
b.	I try as hard as I can because I am worrie what my friends may think.	ed about					
C.	My friends and I study or work together o class.	utside of					
13.	Do you agree with the following staten	nents?	Strongly Disagree				Strongly Agree
a.	In this school, getting better grades than tends to make you less popular.	others					
b.	In this school, too many students get awa being late and not doing their work.	y with					
C.	I LIKE to do more school work than I have to.						
d.							
e.	Studying a lot tends to make you less pop	oular.					
14.	Which courses are you taking THIS semester? Check ALL that apply.	English	Social Studies	Foreign Language	Science	Math	Vocational
a.	Regular course						
b.	College-prep course						
C.	Honor course						
d.	Advanced placement course						
e.	Basic course						
f.	Remedial course						

15.	How many HOURS PER DAY do you expect to do homework this	☐ No time						
	semester, in all your classes?	$\square$ Half an hour $\circ$	or less					
		☐ 1 hour						
		☐ 2 hours						
		☐ 3-4 hours						
		☐ 5 or more hou	ırs					
16.	What is the course grade you are expecting to receive this semester, in	☐ All A's						
	all your classes?	☐ Mostly A's						
		☐ A's & B's						
		☐ Mostly B's						
		☐ B's & C's						
		☐ Mostly C's or	lower					
17.	What is the highest degree level you would like to achieve? I would like to:	$\square$ Leave before graduating from high school						
		☐ Finish high school						
		☐ Technical certificate after high school						
		☐ 2-year college	e degree					
		☐ 4-year college	e degree					
		☐ 4-year college	e degree plus :	some further	r training			
		☐ Post graduate	e degree (med	ical, law, Ph	D, MBA)			
		☐ Haven't thou	ght about it					
18.	On a typical day, are you interested in reading newspaper or magazine articles about:	Not Interes at all				Very Interested		
a.	unemployment							
b.	U.S. government politics							
C.	economic issues faced by union workers							
d.	economic issues faced by workers in other countries							
e.	economic issues faced by the poor							
f.	economic issues faced by the elderly							
g.	why the price of some things is higher than price of other things.	the						

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a.	Solving complex real world problems			
b.	Understanding data, graphs and charts			
C.	Working effectively in groups			
d.	Giving presentations in front of the class			
e.	Writing papers or essays			

**f.** Discussing class-related issues with others

Thank you for completing this survey!!!