

## **What is the VHS Collaborative?**

The VHS Collaborative (VHS) is a non-profit international collaboration of public and private schools from the United States and 29 other countries. VHS offers students high-quality online courses, creates common core standard aligned courses, and provides professional development for online teachers. The program has been internationally recognized as a model for K-12 online education. VHS is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Secondary Schools.

VHS courses are accessed through the Internet using Desire2Learn (D2L). Unlike other online schools, all VHS classes are teacher facilitated. Class sizes are limited to 25, and there is an emphasis on interaction between teachers and students. Activities are student-centered; discussion and group activities are a part of each VHS course.

## **Why VHS?**

Participation in VHS allows schools to greatly expand their course offerings, giving students access to innovative, high-quality courses that the schools may not otherwise have been able to offer.

## **How does the collaborative work?**

Member schools select one or more faculty members to teach over the Internet.

VHS teachers receive online training in how to teach VHS NetCourses in ways that are student-centered, collaborative, and make effective use of technology.

In exchange for each teacher released by the school to teach a VHS NetCourse, the school is able to register 25 students per semester in VHS's full catalog of NetCourses.

Each school also identifies a site coordinator who is trained to act as an advisor and administrative contact for VHS students in their school.

## **Beca and VHS**

Beca joined VHS in January 2008, as a fully participating member school. The Academic school year 2008 – 2009 was our first year with students enrolled. The Netcourse that Beca provides is AP® Spanish Language. This

full year course allows us to enroll 50 students in VHS courses, 25 in the fall and 25 in the spring.

## **Beca and the Diocese of Allentown Consortium**

In April 2012 Allentown Central Catholic, Berks Catholic, Bethlehem Catholic, Nativity BVM, and Pius X formed the Diocese of Allentown Consortium. The consortium allows us to transfer seats between schools and also lowers the per seat fee for additional seats. The lower seat fee has allowed us to register 8 additional students for the 2012-2013 school year.

Students incur no fees for VHS courses. Books and materials for VHS courses are provided by the instructors' schools.

VHS courses are currently offered to juniors and seniors.

For more Information:  
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## **Vocational School Options**

Bethlehem Catholic High School works with the Bethlehem Area Vocational Technical School (BAVTS) to bring out the best in all our students. Students who are eligible, may take advantage of the many educational opportunities that BAVTS provides.

**Programs available through the Vo-tech include:**

**Construction Cluster:**

- Building Trades
- Cabinetmaking
- Carpentry
- Electrical Construction
- Plumbing
- Masonry
- Heating, Ventilation & Air Conditioning

**Creative Cluster:**

- Video & Media Arts
- Commercial Art (Advertising Design)
- Fashion Industries
- Graphic Communications (Print Technology)
- Web Design & Animation

**Culinary Arts Cluster:**

- Baking
- Culinary Arts
- Culinary and Event Planning

**Health Cluster:**

- The Academy for Medical Sciences\*
- Medical & Health Services
- Nurse Aide

**Service Cluster:**

- Cosmetology
- Protective Services

- Horticulture/Floriculture

**Transportation Cluster:**

- The Academy for Automotive Management\*
- Auto Collision Repair
- Automotive Technician

**Manufacturing Cluster:**

- The Academy for Applied Engineering\*
- Electronic Engineering & Manufacturing Technology
- Manufacturing Processes
- Precision Machining
- Welding

**\*Academy Courses are offered to seniors who meet the minimum criteria required for admission.**

Students who choose to take courses through BAVTS attend half their day (either the AM or PM sessions) at the Vo-tech and the other half here at Bethlehem Catholic. The Academy Courses run the equivalent of 1-2 periods of the normal daily schedule here at Bethlehem Catholic.

For more information on what the Bethlehem Area Vo-tech can do for your child visit [www.bethlehemavts.org](http://www.bethlehemavts.org)