



# Valparaiso High School

## 1:1/BYOD Initiative 2017-18

Greetings Valparaiso High School Families,

**This information is for parents/guardians of incoming juniors and seniors for the 2017-2018 school year.**

We are excited to announce that Best Buy is offering all VHS families a [discount](#) on equipment and accessories as a part of their “Student Deals”. Attached to this letter you will find a custom [coupon](#) that can be used in conjunction with the Best Buy “Student Deals” program for your BYOD purchases.

[VHS Best Buy Coupon](#)

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**\*\*\*IMPORTANT\*\*\***

Due to the final exam schedule and several end-of-year activities, several of the incoming juniors and seniors were unable to complete the survey regarding their final decision to BYOD or use a school issued device. If your student was unable to complete the survey stating their preference, please encourage them to take the survey ASAP so we can get an accurate account of required devices for next year. You may locate the survey on the main page of the [VHS website](#).

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If you are considering having your student bring their own device, please remember the minimum system requirements for next school year. Regardless of what device a student chooses to use, all VHS students will be required to adhere to the Acceptable Use Policy at all times. Although cell phones can be educational tools in some settings, they are **NOT** considered proper BYOD Devices at VHS.

#### Minimum Device Requirements

1. Device with keyboard which also includes a Chromebook (must be capable of running most recent version of Chrome OS).
2. Must be Windows 7 or later; Mac 10.8 or later; or Chrome OS
  - Linux OS not recommended

3. 4 GB of RAM or more.
4. 256 GB HD for Windows or More / 16 GB HD for Chromebook
5. HD Webcam
6. Chrome Browser Installed
7. iPads and/or tablets are **not** recommended unless they have an attachable full size keyboard and are capable of running a chrome browser and interacting comfortably with Canvas, and Google Apps (Drive, Docs, Sheets, etc).
  
8. Antivirus Software:
  - Student can download the Avast Education version at no cost
  - (<https://www.avast.com/en-us/index>).
9. Required and Suggested Applications and/or Accessories- see information in the BYOD/1:1 initiative document on the VHS website
10. A protective case is recommended and will be allowed to be carried from class to class. Most laptops do not include a case so please plan to purchase a case or have a backpack with a laptop compartment.
11. Items to consider:
  - Laptop weight and size (carried all day to classes).
  - Battery life (must last the student throughout the school day).
  - Is there a warranty if the device is damaged? Is it covered under homeowner's insurance?
12. VCS is required by law to use a filter on our internet. Installing an additional filter on a BYOD laptop can cause issues for the student while they are using their laptop at school.
13. If a problem occurs with the device at home or at school, a loaner device from VCS is available for a maximum of 10 school days per semester. A record will be kept by the media center specialist. Please [see VCS Loaner Device Policy](#) for more details.

School Issued Devices for 11th and 12th Grades

If an 11th or 12th grade student chooses to use a device issued by VHS, the following are the specific laptop details of that device:

HP Laptop (Supplied and serviced by VHS)

General Specifications:

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. HP 645 G1 Notebook PC 14"</li> <li>2. Windows 7 64-bit</li> <li>3. Webcam</li> <li>4. 8GB memory</li> <li>5. 500GB 7200RPM HD</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. 3-cell long life battery</li> <li>7. Chrome Browser</li> <li>8. Firefox Browser</li> <li>9. MS Office 2013+</li> </ol>
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All VHS issued devices for the school year will be available for pickup on the tech days listed below. When the student is issued the device the student must sign a liability waiver and will be responsible for any and all damages that occur with that device.

### VHS Tech Days

In order to provide parents and students with ample time to adjust to Valparaiso High School's 1:1 environment, we will be offering four different opportunities for families to come to VHS to pick up their school issued devices, bring their own devices to connect to the school WIFI network, or meet with the Best Buy Geek Squad. In addition, members of the VHS Tech Department will also be available to assist with any other problems. The dates and times of those Tech Days are as follows: Tuesday **July 25th** from 9-11am, Thursday **July 27th** from 6-8pm, Tuesday **August 1st** from 6-8pm and Thursday **August 3rd** from 9-11 am at the Valparaiso High School Media Center.