



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 would like a moment to pass along more information regarding the implementation of VHS's 1:1 Initiative next school year. Last month, all of the current sophomores and juniors completed a survey indicating their initial preference for receiving a school-issued device or bringing their own device. During the last week of school, those students will complete another survey finalizing their BYOD decision. The completion of this survey is essential so that the school can ensure all students will have a device at the beginning of the school year. Please take time to communicate with your child(ren) about this decision before the homeroom on **June 1st**.

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.

BYOD Partnership with Best Buy information will be posted on the website later this summer.

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:

1. HP 645 G1 Notebook PC 14"	6. 3-cell long life battery
2. Windows 7 64-bit	7. Chrome Browser
3. Webcam	8. Firefox Browser
4. 8GB memory	9. MS Office 2013+
5. 500GB 7200RPM HD	

All VHS issued devices for the school year will be available for pickup on the tech days listed below. Students may be asked to place a security deposit to ensure that the device will be

returned without damage. When the student is issued the device the student must sign a liability waiver.

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.