

Program Overview

Through the Brandywine Heights Virtual Academy, the Brandywine Heights Area School District offers numerous online courses to satisfy a variety of student needs. Students may choose to take all their courses online or they may choose to take a blending of online courses and traditional brick-and-mortar courses in our schools.

The Brandywine Heights Virtual Academy utilizes Accelerate, Connections Learning, and Edgenuity curriculum which are aligned to Common Core academic standards. This curriculum is developed by highly qualified teachers to meet our district's expectations. The program is easy to navigate and is student-centered.

The courses include web-based curriculum with materials, highly qualified teachers, a supportive environment and a proprietary technology platform specifically designed for each grade level education (grades K-12).

Everything is Online:

- Curriculum materials are shipped directly to your home for grades K through 5. All materials are online for secondary curricula grades 6 through 12.
- Students are issued a laptop to log-in and access their courses from home, the public library, or anywhere with Internet access
- The components you need in order to take our courses are a Learning Coach (parent/guardian) for grades K through 5 ONLY, a computer, Internet access, and curriculum materials.
- Live, state-certified instructors are available for on-demand student support!
- Brandywine will supply a printer/scanner, and Internet reimbursement for blended and full-time students to participate in the Brandywine Heights Virtual Academy.



BRANDYWINE HEIGHTS VIRTUAL ACADEMY

The Brandywine Heights Virtual Academy is an extension of the Brandywine Heights Area School District that provides an online education for students who excel in a non-traditional classroom setting.

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BRANDYWINE HEIGHTS VIRTUAL ACADEMY Grades K-12



Brandywine Heights Area School District

Online Learning Opportunities
for Brandywine Heights
Area School District
Students

Introduction

The Brandywine Heights Virtual Academy, BHVA, is an online program established during the 2009-10 school year. Our program offers flexible pacing and an individualized learning plan for all students. Students in kindergarten through 12th grades can participate in a full-time, part-time, or hybrid online learning program. Our virtual academy is used for core curriculum, STEM and career-focused courses, intervention to recover credits, prepare for standardized assessments and for Advanced Placement programs.

Opportunities and Benefits of a Local Program

BHVA offers a wide variety of online courses including unique electives. Our online students have the flexibility to work on their courses full-time at home or choose a part-time schedule of online and in school. Students in grades 9 through 12 have the opportunity to work on their online courses in our virtual academy classroom in the high school. Please consult the virtual academy director for the best options for your student. BHVA students also have the opportunity to participate in school activities, events, and extra-curricula's. We encourage students to become involved in our local assemblies, field trips, after-school clubs, dances, and athletic programs.

By participating in our online program, students will be provided on-demand teacher support, asynchronous courses, local technology support and the ability to take state-mandated testing (PSSAs and Keystones) in our schools. Students who take three or more online courses qualify for several additional benefits including borrowing a printer/scanner from the district and receiving Internet reimbursement.

Commitment to Learning

Students must be committed to online learning with motivation and self-discipline in order to be successful in an online education program. Parents/Guardians must also be aware of the time commitment expected of their child and monitoring of their child's academic progress. Online learning can be just as challenging or even more so than the traditional school.

Graduate Locally

BHVA offers the cyber option to area students at a cost that is significantly lower than the prices charged by for-profit cyber schools. As a result, while students benefit from high quality online learning with superior local support from BHVA personnel, our district taxpayers enjoy substantial cost savings. In addition, students who graduate through the BHVA program earn an honorable BHASD diploma. Brandywine Heights Virtual Academy provides the best of both worlds: virtual learning and real-world cost effectiveness.

Curriculum Providers

Our District is partnered with several online providers who are leaders in online education for curriculum. Each provides a state-of-the-art digital learning platform for students with an engaging course design combining real-time instruction, resources from leading education partners, customized lesson plans, and Interactive learning tools.

The online curriculum offers rich and engaging content that has been carefully designed to meet the state standards. Students are engaged in a variety of activities and assessments appropriate to the courses being studied, including labs, journals, written assignments, discussions, group and individual projects, formative assessments, objective tests, and written exams.



Edgenuity provides a research-based video course curriculum, which offers more than 185 semester-equivalent core and elective online courses for students, grades 6-12. The online courses are mastery-based, aligned with National Common Core standards and provide a flexible alternative for students who need to catch up or get ahead. Course offerings include core courses and career-oriented courses (business, IT, health sciences).



Accelerate Education is available for students in grades K-5. The Accelerate curriculum brings lessons to life with a rich mixture of online and offline teaching tools, including interactive animations, award-winning printed books with beautiful illustrations and narrative, original videos, and materials for hands-on experiments.



Pearson Connexus is available for students in grades K-12 and provides live lessons for math, language arts, science and history courses. Students receive a combination of online and offline coursework including a wide array of textbooks, interactive lessons, videos, and hands-on materials as part course materials of a comprehensive K-8 or high school program.