

BERKS CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

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VIRTUAL HIGH SCHOOL

Several students will have the opportunity to participate in a cutting-edge instructional program, Virtual High School. More and more colleges are offering this form of self-paced instruction as a way to earn a degree, especially at the graduate level.

The Virtual High School is an exciting initiative that allows a student tremendous flexibility to take an online class. There are over 300 courses available, and most of the Advanced Placement courses are offered. Only courses that are ***not normally*** offered at Berks Catholic High School will be open for enrollment. Students will take their classes from an accredited and credentialed instructor. They will join a class of approximately 25 students, potentially from around the world, by logging on and taking the course during the school day, when it is most convenient to the student's schedule. A 45-minute period is set-aside during the normal school day for the students to work on their lessons, however, work done on the computer outside of class requires a broadband Internet connection.

The coursework is intense. Students need to be highly motivated and must be able to work well independently. The 15-week sessions, which are less than a normal academic semester, require approximately 10 hours of work a week to stay up with the class.

Students are required to have the approval of the Director of Studies and also the appropriate department chair for the course. Once classes begin, students will not be allowed to drop a VHS course as this class takes the place of a regular BCHS course. The VHS instructor, and not the teachers at Berks Catholic High School, assigns grades. The grades assigned will be part of the student's grade point average. Berks Catholic's grading plan will be in effect for these classes. Students may take a maximum of two VHS classes per semester. Once enrolled, students may not drop the class because of the additional financial cost incurred by Berks Catholic. For more information, interested students and their parents are urged to investigate the program by logging on to the website: www.vhslearning.org.

Reading Hospital Medical Professional Internship: Seniors

Seniors will be given the opportunity to participate in a program through The Reading Hospital. BCHS is partnering with the Reading Hospital and Medical Center to offer seniors the opportunity to explore professions typically found in a hospital setting. Students will spend a total of six days (September, October, November, February, March, and April) shadowing professionals. Three to four days will be with direct care providers (doctors, nurses, etc.) and two to three days will be spent with administrators, in labs, nutrition, or other areas. Students will be responsible for summaries to be submitted. This Internship will be worth .25 credits

Students interested should see the Studies Office for an application. The program is limited to 6 students. All students must be interviewed by Reading Hospital for admittance into the program.

*may or may not be offered by Reading Hospital for 2021-2022

Berks Catholic High School, Inc.

955 East Wyomissing Boulevard | Reading, PA 19611-1799

Main Office 610.374.8361 | FAX 610.374.4309 | www.berkscatholic.org