

HVCS Computer/Technology

Each Kindergarten student comes to the computer lab once a week. While there, they practice mouse skills, starting a program, and navigating screens in a program. They use a pre-reading online program, and a choice of art programs to demonstrate their growing skills in the use of technology. These programs also reinforce their learning of reading recognition skills as well as the learning of colors, shapes, and spatial concepts.

The elementary grades practice math skills using various client installed software as well as online math programs. They take Star and Accelerated Reading tests to demonstrate their growing comprehension skills. These tests may be taken at certain times in a number of places such as the school library, their teacher's classroom, or in the computer lab. They use the art programs and print out their pictures provided that they have used art concepts in their work. They may not merely print pre-fabricated pictures. They have their own network login, and are responsible for logging onto a computer at the beginning of a session and logging off when the session is over.

In addition, beginning in the 3rd grade, students use a word processor to create a report on a topic after researching the topic on various search engines such as Bing or Google. Beginning in 4th grade, students create Powerpoint presentations of their research, incorporating pictures, graphs, links, and/or video clips into their work. These grades also answer blog questions on the school science blog.

In addition to the skills mentioned above, the middle school incorporates YouTube Videos, relevant twitter comments, or other online media sources to complete their projects. These are often created in a collaborative way where the students are assigned to groups to research and report on a topic.

Students also use typing programs to learn correct touch typing skills. Their progress is monitored by the Technology Manager and each student has periodic one on one sessions with the Technology Manager to discuss their progress, their strengths, and areas where improvement is needed.