

# GUIDE TO STUDY WEBSITES

THE GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING DEPARTMENT  
VALLEY STREAM CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT  
VALLEY STREAM, NEW YORK  
[www.vschs.org](http://www.vschs.org)

**VALLEY STREAM CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**One Kent Road, Valley Stream, New York 11580**  
**www.vschs.org**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Hon. Kenneth Cummings, President

Hon. Jeanne Greco Jacobs, Vice President

Hon. Elise Antonelli

Hon. Frank Chiachiere, Ph.D

Hon. Anthony Iadevaio

Hon. Carolyn Pean

Hon. William P. Stris

Hon. Lawrence Trogel

Hon. Ian Wraith

**INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

Dr. Richard S. Marsh

**DISTRICT DIRECTOR OF GUIDANCE**

Jill A. Vogel

**MEMORIAL**

**CENTRAL**

**NORTH**

**SOUTH**

**GUIDANCE**

Lynn Winters, A.P.  
Michael DiGiovanna  
Michele Jackson-Powell  
Laura Mesa  
Patrick Naglieri

Robert Milani, A.P.  
Kathy Hardy  
Tina Kosel  
Amy LaPersonerie  
Ron Rini

David Trizano, A.P.  
Karen Biron  
Josh Brodsky  
Jamie Carbone  
Jill Goldstein  
Grace Pariti

Kara Jacobson, A.P.  
Patricia Antonelli  
Jeanne Battaglia  
Phil Corsentino  
Michelle Lyons  
Barbara Madigan

**DEPARTMENT CHAIRPEOPLE**

Tracy Alesia  
Donna Lankford  
Amy Pacifico  
Susan Piscitello-Pall  
Dan Saitta  
Caterina Stanczuk

Lorraine Burnett  
Donna Lankford  
Amy Pacifico  
Dan Saitta  
Caterina Stanczuk  
Angelo Stanco

Carol Asaro  
Lori Belbol  
Edward Curran  
Madelin LoBue  
John Pandolfi  
Cecilia Sanossian

Jeanette Azzaretto  
Doreen Kealey-Sullivan  
Audrey Keany  
Salvatore Marino  
Joan Strong  
Maritza Tuohy

# **No More Excuses**

The way children learn has and is changing in today's electronic world. Perhaps it started many years ago with Sesame Street, which began the practice of teaching in limited segments, only expecting children to pay attention for short periods of time. Certainly, the change continued with computer games, email, social networks and texting and tweeting. Learning from this, we educators in the schools are using technology in the classroom at increased rates.

One of the ways that parents can help is by insuring that their children do their homework, study and review. A problem for parents, especially when the child goes into higher levels of math and science, is that they either forgot or never took these courses and can't help their child accomplish the necessary work at home. Well, this book is a developing product to end that excuse. The computer has come to the rescue. There are numerous, reliable and safe internet sites devoted to teaching the very skills and courses your child takes during the school day. We are happy to share a variety of these sites with you, and provide specific instructions on how to use a couple of the more important sites. We have grouped these sites by specialty/subject area and when there is an electronic textbook available, have provided that as well. The better sites have videos of teachers providing the review of skills and most have plenty of practice questions and tests with answers and solutions as part of the review. No more excuses by either the parent or student on not knowing how to solve the problem or do the work!!!

I hope you use this book as a kick-off to spend quality time with your child on improving knowledge and study skills. The resources cited will grow over time. If you come across a good resource, please share it with us. Thanks to the guidance counselors, especially Barbara Madigan, for beginning this idea and to all of the Valley Stream Central High School District chairpeople for sharing their resources with me so that I could share them with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jill Vogel". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J".

Jill A. Vogel  
Director of Guidance



<b>WEBSITE</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
<b>ENGLISH</b>	
<a href="http://www.owl.english.purdue.edu">www.owl.english.purdue.edu</a>	Useful for research papers and works cited in research papers.
<a href="http://www.sparknotes.com">www.sparknotes.com</a>	Provides notes on many books read in English classes. In addition, there is a section called <i>No Fear Shakespeare</i> that puts Shakespeare's language side by side with a translation into modern English.
<a href="http://www.dictionary.com">www.dictionary.com</a>	Reliable, free online access to millions of English definitions, synonyms, spelling, audio pronunciations, example sentences, and translations from our Web properties at Dictionary.com, Thesaurus.com, and Reference.com.
<a href="http://www.thesaurus.com">www.thesaurus.com</a>	
<a href="http://www.teachingbooks.net">www.teachingbooks.net</a>	Audio clips for novels and short stories. Can sort by Author, Title and Subject or browse by grade level and curriculum area.
<b><i>English Language AP &amp; English Literature AP</i></b>	
<a href="http://www.collegeboard.com">www.collegeboard.com</a>	Provides information about all AP courses including course descriptions, exam questions, exam schedules and fees. There is also a link that discusses the benefits of taking an AP course and exam. AP students SHOULD utilize the resources on this site.
<b><i>Poetry</i></b>	
<a href="http://www.poetryfoundation.org">www.poetryfoundation.org</a>	The Poetry Foundation, publisher of <i>Poetry</i> magazine, is an independent literary organization committed to a vigorous presence for poetry in our culture. It exists to discover and celebrate the best poetry and to place it before the largest possible audience.
<a href="http://www.poetry.org">www.poetry.org</a>	A resource site for poetry and poets. Here you can learn about the history, meaning, and types of poetry, as well as terms often used when reading and studying poetry.
<a href="http://www.poets.org">www.poets.org</a>	To support American poets at all stages of their careers and to foster the appreciation of contemporary poetry.
<a href="http://www.enotes.com">www.enotes.com</a>	eNotes is an educational resource used by millions of teachers and students. They have thousands of literature study guides, lesson plans, literary criticism, and a vibrant community you can join.
<b>LOTE</b>	
<a href="http://www.nysed.gov">www.nysed.gov</a>	New York State Education Department for previous LOTE Proficiency Exams and Regents Exams in French, Italian and Spanish

<b>WEBSITE</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
<a href="http://www.collegeboard.com">www.collegeboard.com</a>	College Board/AP website for AP courses in French Language, Italian Language, Spanish Language and Spanish Literature
<a href="http://www.rai.it">www.rai.it</a>	Italian news, video for all Italian classes
<a href="http://www.casadejoanna.com">www.casadejoanna.com</a>	Language learning resources for all French and Spanish classes
<a href="http://www.glencoe.com">www.glencoe.com</a>	<i>Bon Voyage/Buen Viaje</i> textbook site for French 1,2,3 and Spanish 1,2,3
<a href="http://it.stlawu.edu/~rgol/AP-Spanish/recursos.htm">http://it.stlawu.edu/~rgol/AP-Spanish/recursos.htm</a>	Website for references to Spanish AP Language and Spanish AP Literature
<a href="http://holtmcdougal.hmhco.com/hm/wl.htm">http://holtmcdougal.hmhco.com/hm/wl.htm</a>	Website for Spanish 1 textbook, iAdvancemos! Website
<a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages">www.bbc.co.uk/languages</a>	Video web resources for French, Italian, Japanese and Spanish
<a href="http://www.castlelearning.com">www.castlelearning.com</a>	For French and Spanish practice for Levels 1,2,3,4. <b>(See Attachment #1 for instructions for logging on to the site)</b>
<a href="http://conjuguemos.com">http://conjuguemos.com</a>	For French, Italian, Spanish conjugations for all LOTE classes
<a href="http://www.studyspanish.com">www.studyspanish.com</a>	Spanish review site for Levels 1,2,3,4,5
<a href="http://www.laits.utexas.edu/spe/siteindex.php">www.laits.utexas.edu/spe/siteindex.php</a>	Spanish videos for Levels 1,2,3,4,5, AP Language
<a href="http://www.colby.edu/~bknelson/SLC/index.php">www.colby.edu/~bknelson/SLC/index.php</a>	Spanish review site for Levels 4,5, AP Language
<a href="http://www.wordreference.com">www.wordreference.com</a>	Online dictionary for French, Italian, Japanese and Spanish
<a href="http://www.quia.com/web">www.quia.com/web</a>	Online practice, games in French, Italian and Spanish
<a href="http://www.studyspanish.com">www.studyspanish.com</a>	Grammar explanations, practice quizzes
<a href="http://www.spanishclassonline.com">www.spanishclassonline.com</a>	Vocabulary, grammar, games, newspapers....
<a href="http://www.ver-taal.com">http://www.ver-taal.com</a>	Listening activities, video clips, culture...
<a href="http://www.spanishdict.com">www.spanishdict.com</a>	Dictionary and translator with auditory component
<a href="http://www.wordreference.com">www.wordreference.com</a>	Dictionary, verb conjugations
<a href="http://www.youtube.com/user/SrMara">www.youtube.com/user/SrMara</a>	Songs to explain Spanish grammar
<b>MATH</b>	
<a href="http://www.msmath2.net">www.msmath2.net</a> (Math 7) <a href="http://www.msmath3.net">www.msmath3.net</a> (Math 8)	A MUST for students and parents - the msmath websites provide numerous resources to help students understand and succeed in learning math. Each chapter is discussed and a 'personal tutor' walks the user through the example. MUST be seen. This is a wonderful resource for the Valley Stream CHSD! Online editions of Math 7 and 8 textbooks. <b>(See Attachment #2 instructions for logging onto the site)</b>

<b>WEBSITE</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
<a href="http://www.mathvids.com">www.mathvids.com</a>	Math videos or teachers teaching lessons by topic appropriate for middle school math through college level math.
<a href="http://www.ixl.com">www.ixl.com</a>	Math games for many grade levels
<a href="http://www.onlinemathlearning.com">www.onlinemathlearning.com</a>	All grades of Math review and SAT or ACT Math prep with videos to show problem solutions by topic.
<b>MULTI SUBJECT</b>	
<a href="http://www.castlelearning.com">www.castlelearning.com</a>	Supports classroom instruction. Includes over 70,000 field-tested questions supported by defined vocabulary, reference tables, hints and reasons for correct answers in math, science, social studies, English and foreign languages. Core courses for grades 3-12 are correlated to standard curriculum. <b>(See Attachment #1 for instructions for logging onto the site)</b>
<a href="http://www.regentsprep.org">www.regentsprep.org</a>	Provides Regents prep for all Regents exams, including thematic review, practice questions, old Regents exams and study materials. <b>(See Attachment #3 for instructions for this site)</b>
<a href="http://www.collegeboard.com">www.collegeboard.com</a>	Provides information about all AP courses including course descriptions, exam questions, exam schedules and fees. There is also a link that discusses the benefits of taking an AP course and exam. AP students SHOULD utilize the resources on this site.
<a href="http://www.p12.nysed.gov/osa/">www.p12.nysed.gov/osa/</a>	For practice NCLB exams. Scroll to:  <b><i>"For elementary- and intermediate-level students:</i></b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Grades 3-8 English Language Arts</i></li> <li>• <i>Mathematics Tests</i></li> <li>• <i>Grades 4 &amp; 8 Elementary-and Intermediate-Level Science Tests</i></li> <li>• <i>Grades 5 &amp; 8 Elementary-and Intermediate-Level Social Studies Tests"</i></li> </ul>
<a href="http://www.brainpop.com">www.brainpop.com</a>	Needs to be subscribed to. It is amazing and has a little cartoon explaining something, then a self check quiz. Also has supplemental worksheets that go along with it.
<a href="http://www.premiercampus.com">www.premiercampus.com</a>	Many and varied learning resources and tips. Relates to the student agenda book.
<a href="http://www.arounder.com">www.arounder.com</a>	Students can take 360° degree virtual tours of historically and culturally important sites around the world.

<b>WEBSITE</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
<a href="http://www.wikipedia.org">www.wikipedia.org</a>	Wikipedia is a free online encyclopedia. It is written collaboratively by millions of volunteers writers around the world. It was launched in 2001 and has quickly become the largest and most popular online general reference tool.
<a href="http://streaming.discoveryeducation.com">http://streaming.discoveryeducation.com</a>	There are free video clips that are thematic which teach specific subjects. There are free student and parent resources, including homework help by subject area.
<a href="http://www.watchknow.com">www.watchknow.com</a>	Videos organized by subject. Additionally students can utilize the search function to find a video clip of a specific event/topic
<b>SOCIAL STUDIES</b>	
<a href="http://www.congressforkids.net">www.congressforkids.net</a>	Learning about the federal government doesn't have to be boring. Congress for Kids gives you access to interactive, fun-filled experiences designed to help you learn about the foundation of our federal government and how its actions affect you. Designed for students in grades fourth through high school.
<a href="http://www.edublogs.org">www.edublogs.org</a>	Links students to teacher blog pages
<a href="http://glencoe.com/bentley4">glencoe.com/bentley4</a>	A comprehensive website presenting chapter outlines and powerpoints, practice questions, primary sources, and other resources corresponding to the AP World History text used in both grades 9 and 10.
<a href="http://www.castlelearning.com">www.castlelearning.com</a>	Supports classroom instruction. Includes over 70,000 field-tested questions supported by defined vocabulary, reference tables, hints and reasons for correct answers in math, science, social studies, English and foreign languages. Core courses for grades 3-12 are correlated to standard curriculum. <b><i>(See Attachment #1 for instructions for logging onto the site)</i></b>
<a href="http://www.collegeboard.com">www.collegeboard.com</a>	Provides information about all AP courses including course descriptions, exam questions, exam schedules and fees. There is also a link that discusses the benefits of taking an AP course and exam. AP students SHOULD utilize the resources on this site.
<b>ACT &amp; SAT PREP</b>	
<a href="http://www.collegeboard.com">www.collegeboard.com</a>	The company that 'makes' the exam offers numerous free prep methods including question of the day, free practice tests to name a couple.
<a href="http://www.actstudent.org/testprep/index.htm">www.actstudent.org/testprep/index.htm</a>	The company that makes the ACT offers some free prep resources.
<a href="http://www.number2.com">www.number2.com</a>	Totally free SAT & ACT prep online!!

<b>WEBSITE</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
<a href="http://www.4tests.com/exams/examdetail.asp?eid=13">www.4tests.com/exams/examdetail.asp?eid=13</a>	This site allows students to take practice tests online. They will be graded for them and they can review the exam as well as get an explanation for why correct answer is correct. (This site also has SAT, GED, etc. practice exams)
<a href="http://www.bestprepreview.com">www.bestprepreview.com</a>	Offers practice tests and study guides for both SAT and ACT prep.
<a href="http://www.sparknotes.com/testprep/books/act/">www.sparknotes.com/testprep/books/act/</a>	Helpful information about how to take the ACT as well as what materials the exam includes and review of that material.

## **COLLEGE SEARCH**

<a href="http://connection.naviance.com/see_below">http://connection.naviance.com/see below</a> <i>Central HS - <a href="http://connection.naviance.com/VSCHS">http://connection.naviance.com/VSCHS</a></i> <i>South HS - <a href="http://connection.naviance.com/VSSHHS">http://connection.naviance.com/VSSHHS</a></i> <i>North HS - <a href="http://connection.naviance.com/VSNHS">http://connection.naviance.com/VSNHS</a></i> <i>Memorial JHS-<a href="http://connection.naviance.com/VSMJ">http://connection.naviance.com/VSMJ</a></i>	Family Connection by Naviance is a website supported by the Valley Stream CHSD that allows students and families to investigate, research, track and plan for colleges and careers. <b>(See Attachment #4 for instructions to register on the stite. See your counselor for your individual code if necessary)</b>
<a href="http://www.guidancedirect.com">www.guidancedirect.com</a>  Central School ID 9227611) Password: V68S6608  Memorial School ID 9221308) Password: V05S0519  North School ID 9225486) Password: V47S6734  South School ID 922064) Password: V96S3420	A web based program provided by the Valley Stream CHSD to provide college and career search engines.

## **CAREER SEARCH**

<a href="http://connection.naviance.com/see_below">http://connection.naviance.com/see below</a> <i>Central HS - <a href="http://connection.naviance.com/VSCHS">http://connection.naviance.com/VSCHS</a></i> <i>South HS - <a href="http://connection.naviance.com/VSSHHS">http://connection.naviance.com/VSSHHS</a></i> <i>North HS - <a href="http://connection.naviance.com/VSNHS">http://connection.naviance.com/VSNHS</a></i> <i>Memorial JHS-<a href="http://connection.naviance.com/VSMJ">http://connection.naviance.com/VSMJ</a></i>	Family Connection by Naviance is a website supported by the Valley Stream CHSD that allows students and families to investigate, research, track and plan for colleges and careers. <b>(See Attachment #4 for instructions to register on the stite. See your counselor for your individual code if necessary)</b>
<a href="http://www.guidancedirect.com">www.guidancedirect.com</a>  Central School ID 9227611) Password: V68S6608  Memorial School ID 9221308) Password: V05S0519  North School ID 9225486) Password: V47S6734  South School ID 922064) Password: V96S3420	A web based program provided by the Valley Stream CHSD to provide college and career search engines.
<a href="http://www.quintcareers.com/career_exploration.html">www.quintcareers.com/career_exploration.html</a>	Quintessential Careers provides tools and resources for exploring careers.

<b>WEBSITE</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
<p><a href="http://www.bls.gov/oco">www.bls.gov/oco</a> (<i>Occupational Outlook Handbook online</i>)</p>	<p>For hundreds of types of jobs--such as teacher, lawyer, and nurse--the <i>Occupational Outlook Handbook</i> tells you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● the training and education needed</li> <li>● earnings</li> <li>● expected job prospects</li> <li>● what workers do on the job</li> <li>● working conditions</li> </ul> <p>In addition, the <i>Handbook</i> gives you job search tips, links to information about the job market in each State, and more. You can also view frequently asked questions about the <i>Handbook</i>.</p>
<p><a href="http://www.WetFeet.com">www.WetFeet.com</a></p>	<p>WetFeet provides insightful profiles of companies, careers, and industries to guide job seekers toward finding the right career, the right industry, the right company, and the right job for them. Through the Insider Guide series and two websites (<a href="http://wetfeet.com">wetfeet.com</a> and <a href="http://internshipprograms.com">internshipprograms.com</a>), the website helps more than 1 million job candidates each year nail their interviews, avoid making ill-fated career decisions, and add thousands of dollars to their compensation packages. WetFeet does the research for you and presents results in a clear, credible, and entertaining way.</p>
<p><a href="http://www.jobProfiles.org">www.jobProfiles.org</a></p>	<p>Job Profiles provides descriptions, the degree level you need for that job, the schools and programs that offer that degree and also provides a newsletter if you sign up.</p>
<b>VALLEY STREAM CENTRAL HS DISTRICT INFORMATION</b>	
<p><a href="http://www.vschsd.org">www.vschsd.org</a></p>	<p>District Website which contains information on district activities as well as provides a link to the eSchoolData Parent Portal. The Parent Portal allows parents real time access via the web to their child's report card, progress report, attendance, schedule and transcript. Need to apply for access.</p>

[www.castlelearning.com](http://www.castlelearning.com)

**ID: first 7 letters of last name and first initial** -sou (South)  
-nor (North)  
-cen (Central)  
-mem (Memorial)

(Students with common last names may have a # after 1<sup>st</sup> initial)

**Password: same as school network password**

To Access an assignment posted by a teacher:

- + Click teacher's name
- + Click Activity
- + Click description of assignment posted by teacher

To Create your own assignment:

- + Click the drop down menu arrow under Math, English, Science or Social Studies
- + Click course name (intermediate for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade)
- + Click go
- + Click Short Answer Review
- + Click Sessions you Create Yourself
- + Click Create a New Short Answer Session
- + Click topic currently working on in math
- + Click or unclick topics desired
- + Scroll to bottom of page
- + Enter Number of questions desired (10-50)
- + Enter Name of assignment
- + Click begin assignment

To access Student created assignments :

- + Click Home Page
- + Click subject and go
- + Click course name and go
- + Click short answer review
- + Click sessions you create yourself
- + Click on date of assignment created

To review Flash Cards before completing teacher or self created assignment:

- + Follow procedure to get to teacher's assignment or assignment you created yourself
- + Click index card icon within the posted assignment
- + Read word and recite definition in your head
- + Click to see definition
- + Click next to get to next flashcard
- + Click return to assignment to return to the assignment



[www.msmath2.net](http://www.msmath2.net) and [www.msmath3.net](http://www.msmath3.net)

**Math 7**

**Math 7 Acc (or Math 8)**

Click: Extra Examples (shows step by step how to solve each problem)

- + Click Chapter you are currently working on in math
- + Click Lesson topic you are currently working on in math
- + Open Word document

Click: Personal Tutor (see and hear step by step problem solving)

- + Click Chapter you are currently working on in math
- + Click Lesson topic you are currently working on in math
- + Click green play button at bottom of screen to see and hear personal tutor's work

Click: Self Check quizzes (gives 5 multiple choice practice problems)

- + Click Chapter you are currently working on in math
- + Click Lesson topic you are currently working on in math
- + Click hint button for first question and try to solve it
- + Click Check it button at bottom of page  
(If answers are incorrect the computer tells student what page in text book to go to for another example like it)

Click: Parent and Student Study Guide (detailed problem solving strategies in English & Spanish)

- + Click Chapter you are currently working on in math
- + Click Lesson topic you are currently working on in math  
(Opens to printable PDF document with answers on bottom)

Click: Brain Pops (only on [www.msmath3.net](http://www.msmath3.net)) (3-5 minute cartoon on concept of your choice)

Click: Chapter Readiness (10 multiple choice questions on topics you must know in order to be successful on current chapter)

- + Click Chapter you are currently working on in math
- + Click Lesson topic you are currently working on in math
- + Click hint button for first question and try to solve it
- + Click Check it button at bottom of page  
(If answers are incorrect the computer tells student what page in text book to go to for another example like it)

**([www.msmath2.net](http://www.msmath2.net) and [www.msmath3.net](http://www.msmath3.net) continued)**

Click: Vocabulary Review (puzzles and games to practice vocabulary)

- + Click Chapter you are currently working on in math
- + Click Lesson topic you are currently working on in math

Click: Chapter Test (15 to 20 multiple choice questions from entire chapter)

- + Click Chapter you are currently working on in math
- + Click Lesson topic you are currently working on in math
- + Click hint button for first question and try to solve it
- + Click Check it button at bottom of page  
(If answers are incorrect the computer tells student what page in text book to go to for another example like it)

[www.regentsprep.org](http://www.regentsprep.org)

+Click subject

+Click one of the following Review Resources for Regents Review:

**Review Resources:**

[Multiple-Choice Questions](#)

[Practice Essays](#)

[Exam Overview](#)

[Online Resources](#)

[Old Regents Exams](#)

[Study Materials](#)



## **Family Connection by Naviance**

### **First Time Registration Instructions**

**See your counselor for your individual code if necessary**

- Go to: **[www.connection.naviance.com/vsnhs](http://www.connection.naviance.com/vsnhs)** (for ***VS North*** Students).  
**[www.connection.naviance.com/vschs](http://www.connection.naviance.com/vschs)** (for ***VS Central*** Students).  
**[www.connection.naviance.com/vsshs](http://www.connection.naviance.com/vsshs)** (for ***VS South*** Students).  
**[www.connection.naviance.com/vsmj](http://www.connection.naviance.com/vsmj)** (for ***VS Memorial*** Students).

Enter your Registration code provided by the Guidance department.

- Naviance will recognize your name and ask you to provide a valid e-mail address that will now serve as your Naviance e-mail log in/username.
- You will then create a six (6) character password to access Naviance.
- Click the Accept to the privacy statement and then click “Complete Registration.”

You are now a registered member of Naviance and will be able to log onto Naviance just utilizing your e-mail address and password.







**Prepared by Jill Vogel and Joan Ford  
Printed by the Instructional Services Center  
Valley Stream Central High School District**