

Landstown High School



Virginia Beach VA, USA



The School

Landstown High School (or LHS) is a part of the Virginia Beach City Public Schools district.

LHS is a public high school, having students in grades 9 through 12. This modern school opened its doors in 2001. The student population is approximately 2300.

LHS now also includes a Technology Academy, which acts as a magnet school – drawing additional students who want to specialize in technology, from outside of the school's traditional zone.

The Language Lab

LHS has a dedicated 30 seat computer-equipped language lab. The lab is used to support the teaching of foreign language courses in Spanish, French, German and Latin.

The lab is equipped with a Symposium system, which is used for both student recordings and teacher-managed activities such as student pairing and teacher or student presentations and for remote viewing of student screens and monitoring of student microphones.

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Foreign Language Teaching

Landstown High School has a foreign language department with 14 teachers on staff.

The school offers more than 20 different foreign language courses.

Two training sessions have been provided for LHS teachers, and additional refresher courses are also planned.

The IT Department

The school has a modest IT staff of two. The IT group is generally responsible for first-tier support of the language lab if teachers run into issues with which they are not familiar.

Language Lab System

The original language lab system (from Sony) was installed in 2001. This system included a SmartClass SC2000 screen, keyboard, and mouse sharing system (controlled from the Sony control panel).

When LHS decided to upgrade the lab in 2006, Symposium was a very cost-effective choice for the new digital solution, as the Symposium software layer could just be incrementally added to the existing SmartClass hardware layer.

The existing document camera and VHS/DVD player was also easily integrated with the Symposium system.

Periodic software upgrades are provided for the language lab.

