

## How does this program work?

This a **free** program paid for by your tax dollars and generously provided and supported by Berrien Springs Public Schools. Because BSPS is a district of choices, we offer all students an array of options. The Partnership is available to district students, homeschool students\* (see FAQs below) from Berrien, Cass and VanBuren counties, and private school students who either live in-district (Berrien Springs residents) or attend one of the many schools located within the BSPS District.

Students, grades K-12, sign up as **part-time** Berrien Springs students through the Registration tab. According to HSLDA (Homeschool Legal Defense Association), homeschoolers retain their status as homeschool students as long as parents provide 51% of the students' total education including all core subjects: language arts (reading, spelling, English grammar, writing, literature), arithmetic, science, history, social studies and federal and state government. The school district receives tax dollars and in turn provides extremely valuable and fun non-core (elective) educational opportunities families might not otherwise be able to enjoy.

**The novelty of our program is that you choose how you want to benefit from what the Partnership has to offer.**

**Benefits of participating in the Partnership include:**

- Fellowship with other students in educational and social pursuits
- Up to 2 degree-based college courses *per semester*, including books, for high school students, depending on grade level ([see dual enrollment](#))
- **Up to 4** valuable and exciting elective community project-based learning classes *per semester* for all ages that may be too costly or inaccessible otherwise. See ([Classes Tab](#)).
- Foreign language access through Michigan Virtual and Middlebury World Languages. (see [Michigan Virtual](#)) (see [Middlebury World Languages](#))
- Free CTE (Career and Technical Education - exceptional county-wide vocational programs for Juniors and Seniors ([see CTE](#)))
- Access to other exciting non-core virtual classes for all ages (see [Virtual Classes](#) under Classes Tab)
- Free (student admission) to exciting field trips (see Field Trips under Classes Tab)
- Access to certified teacher support
- Greater understanding of Berrien Springs Schools and the support and diversity in the greater community.