

THE VISNET ADVANTAGE:

AN EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF YOUR TAIS MEMBERSHIP

WHO WE ARE

VISnet, the Virtual Independent School Network, began in 2011 as a way for independent schools to leverage their buying power and to expand and enhance curriculum options. It has grown from only digital content for the classroom to also include administrative and business office resources. VISnet has identified and vetted key resources that contribute to the success, sustainability, and safety of our schools. VISnet does the heavy lifting so that you can focus on the mission of your independent school. All of our resources are available to TAIS member schools. Our resources fall under two main categories: Administrative and Educational.

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOURCES

ASSESSMENT PORTAL

Our assessments provide valuable information about work styles, personality characteristics, core values, motivators, and leadership styles. They can serve as a useful tool in screening candidates, on-boarding new hires, coaching, team-building, leadership development, and student development.

Core Assessments:

DISC Social Styles
Motivators Learning Styles
Emotional Intelligence

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES?

We are continually seeking out and reviewing resources. Have an idea? Contact us and we will do the heavy lifting!

BACKGROUND SCREENING

VISnet has established an agreement with InfoMart, one of the nation's premier background screening companies, providing criminal histories, credit and driving records, and education and employment verifications for businesses worldwide. InfoMart offers the most comprehensive suite of background check services to ensure you get the whole story.

FUEL SAVINGS PROGRAM

VISnet has partnered with Mansfield Energy to bring you school savings on fuel. As a non-profit education organization, your school may be eligible for significant savings on every gallon of fuel purchased.

EDUCATIONAL

RESOURCES

ACCELERATED READER

Renaissance Accelerated Reader 360® empowers teachers to motivate, monitor, and manage independent reading and skills practice for greater student success. It helps teachers engage, appropriately challenge, and drive accountability with each student as they read self-selected books and articles, take short comprehension quizzes, and practice close reading skills.

BRAINPOP

BrainPop (K-8) creates animated, curriculum-based content that engages students, supports teachers, and helps bolster achievement. BrainPop resources include BrainPop Jr. (K-3), BrainPop Español, and BrainPop ESL. All are supported by BrainPop Educators, an online professional community. Animated movies are reinforced by interactive quizzes, vocabulary activities, graphic organizers, experiments, and high-interest readings.

BRITANNICA

Britannica School is a safe, up-to-date, and age-appropriate information resource for Elementary, Middle, and High School. Discover encyclopedia articles, multimedia, primary sources, games, and other learning resources that support student research and reinforce curriculum standards.

CANVAS

Canvas by Instructure is the learning management system that gets used. Canvas connects teachers with tools, tools with ideas, ideas with students, and students with each other. With built-in features you need and integrations you want, Canvas stays out of the way so you can focus on learning.

CWRA+

The College and Work Readiness Assessment (CWRA+) assesses essential lifelong learning skills such as critical-thinking, problem-solving, data-literacy, and communication skills. Reports include data on student and school proficiency in critical thinking and related skills, plus estimates of growth in these skills.

EBSCO

EBSCO offers a suite of more than 300 full-text and secondary research databases covering all subject areas, levels of research, and user communities—from schools, public libraries, and universities.

EDHESIVE

Edhesive makes it possible for schools to offer a pathway of computer science courses, and does not require schools to have a computer science instructor on staff. Students learn content from a sequence of video lessons, lab assignments, and auto-graded assessments -while schools provide a teacher who is not required to be familiar with coding. Edhesive provides PD and training to teachers, and seven days per week online forum support to both students and teachers.

FLOCABULARY

Flocabulary helps students master academic content while building core literacy skills through engagement, mastery and student creativity.



FUEL EDUCATION

FuelEducation offers over 140 classes for grades 6-12 including core curriculum, Advanced Placement, foundations, and credit recovery courses. Offerings for students in grades K-5 include core subjects, arts, and world languages. Highly qualified instructional staff, an extensive catalog of online courses and flexible delivery options combine to meet the needs of all elementary school, middle school, and high school students. From at-risk students struggling in the traditional classroom to high-achieving students seeking more challenging courses their schools cannot provide, FuelEducation can help.

IXL LEARNING

IXL is an immersive online program that improves student performance in math, language arts, science, and social studies. We create a differentiated learning environment that generates questions at the right level of rigor for every student, then adapts with them as they grow. For teachers, IXL Analytics is a daily essential that illuminates trouble spots, inspires instructional strategies, and analyzes student progress through interactive, easy-to-understand visualizations.

JSTOR

JSTOR is a digital library where teachers and students can access to 2,000 scholarly journals and 2 million primary sources that support research and teaching. It exposes students to peer-reviewed scholarly research for the first time and helps teachers enrich their classrooms with key scholarly literature across more than 50 disciplines.

MAKERS EMPIRE

Using Makers Empire, teachers can harness the power of 3D printing to teach important STEM concepts, design thinking, and 21st-century learning skills. Students are empowered by an engaging design process to develop a growth mindset and important problem solving, analytical and spatial thinking skills.

MIDDLEBURY LANGUAGES

Middlebury College—famous for its nearly 100-year tradition of excellence in world language education now offers Middlebury Interactive Languages online through VISnet. The Middlebury Language programs provide all the tools for extraordinary success at each skill level, including the ultimate level of achievement – language fluency. The depth and breadth of the Middlebury curriculum is unmatched.

NEARPOD

Nearpod is an interactive classroom tool for teachers to engage students with 6,500+ ready-to-teach, customizable lessons built in partnership with respected publishers like PhET and ReadWorks

OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS

Oxford University Press is a department of the University of Oxford. It furthers the University's objective of excellence in research, scholarship, and education by publishing worldwide. OUP has partnered with VISnet to bring their top quality digital content to our schools across the consortium.

PALS LITERACY SCREENING

The Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening (PALS) was developed at the University of Virginia and is a screening, diagnostic, and progress tool for measuring the fundamental components of literacy. PALS is available for Pre-K through 8th grade.

PALS is designed to identify students in need of additional reading instruction beyond what is typically provided. PALS also informs teachers' instruction by providing explicit information about their students' knowledge of literacy fundamentals.

PEBBLEGO

PebbleGo is the award winning PreK-2 database for reading and research. PebbleGo databases build on children's interests in a way that makes learning and improving reading and research skills fun. Choose from six rich, interactive databases: PebbleGo Animals, Science, Biographies, Social Studies, Dinosaurs and Animals, PebbleGo's first Spanish language database. Each one is simple to navigate and offers key reading supports such as read-along audio and word-by-word highlighting.

PEBBLEGO NEXT

PebbleGo Next is the next step for researchers when they are ready to graduate from the original PebbleGo! Curriculum-connected content for grades 3-6. Rich articles with more robust information. We currently offer Science, Social Studies, Biographies, and States & American Indian Studies Databases..

TYPING AGENT

Typing Agent is an innovative keyboarding program for school districts, especially those with iPad initiatives, offering multi-player games, 10-key keyboarding, multiple goal-based learning, 4 age appropriate learning worlds including a K-2 environment, course mapping and more. Includes typeSMART™, a first ever in keyboarding, helping with student keyboarding outcomes, assigning Q-Scores, curriculum mapping and much more.

STAR ASSESSMENTS

Star assessments help educators using Accelerated Reader by providing appropriate goals, and measure growth throughout the school year and longitudinally over many years. In addition, Star assessments can be used for screening and placement of students, grouping by ability for small group instruction, and access to thousands of Renaissance and open education resources to help target instruction at the right level.

USETPA

The USETPA is a consortium which was formed on behalf of all schools, libraries and local government entities. We have created a series of Master Convenience contracts for technology goods and services. By aggregating demand the USETPA can offer users discounted pricing while simplifying and documenting the entire procurement process.

THE VIRTUAL HIGH SCHOOL

The Virtual High School (VHS, Inc.) is a non-profit organization, committed to fulfilling learning objectives for schools and their students. We offer over 200 courses in a flexible, online format. This allows you to enhance your curriculum, increase your course offerings and prepare your students for college and beyond.

MORE INFORMATION

Our services are available to you, as a TAIS school, free of charge as a benefit of your TAIS membership. VISnet strives to be your first stop when looking for discounted, quality programs and content for your school. If you are interested in pricing and ordering information, as well as to recommend a future resource, please reach out directly to Stephanie Keaney at skeaney@vis-network.org or 704-461-1812, ext 3.

Please note: the exclusive member pricing is only available through VISnet. Do not reach out directly to the providers to order. Some resources above are only available when ordered during the open enrollment period each year.