

## CHS - VLACS Competency Recovery Opportunity Overview v1c 2011 06 13

First and foremost, a student who fails a course or even a portion of a course at Concord High School is expected to take full responsibility for their personal credit recovery process.

Concord High School is now sponsoring the use of *VLACS Competency Recovery* as a recovery option for (1) students who have failed a course or (2) students who have failed a particular portion (quarter or semester) of a course. VLACS is a NH-certified online high school.

All CHS recovery opportunities, including *VLACS Competency Recovery* are offered with conditions. For example, for many years CHS has offered summer school as a recovery option available to students who fail a course, but who also meet attendance and performance eligibility requirements. Summer school and *VLACS Competency Recovery* are similar in that they both are designed to only recover a specific portion of a course's expectations.

A more significant recovery would require the student to re-enroll in a course or register for a complete VLACS course. It should also be noted that *The Concord Regional Diploma Academy* can assist students who have found themselves in need of large scale multi-course recovery and who fit the defined criteria of at-risk of dropping out.

The process to utilize VLACS Course Recovery at Concord High School is as follows:

1. A teacher and student meeting will be held to review areas of concern with regard to the student's performance. The teacher will attempt to connect CHS Course Competencies with *VLACS Course Competencies*. The reality in New Hampshire is that every district has their own set of course competencies and nothing is standardized. VLACS has done a good job creating a universal set of competencies. This meeting should take place no LATER than TWO WEEKS before the end of the term for which the recovery is intended (extended for June 2010/11).
2. If connections can be made (it may not be possible), then a list of VLACS competencies for the particular student to recover will be established. Similar to summer school, this list needs to be within reason and achievable in a six week time window. This window can be extended if either effort of progress or exceptional circumstance is demonstrated. At this point, we are allowing one to three competencies to be recovered at once.
3. Once the first two steps are completed, a *CHS-VLACS Competency Recovery Contract* will be signed by the student, teacher and commons administrator confirming what is expected and how the grades will be converted to CHS once VLACS is completed. In most cases related to a failure grade, the student will receive an adjusted term grade of 60 which is minimally passing.
4. The student would enroll and participate with VLACS on their own initiative. CHS staff will not be expected to provide academic support. VLACS will manage the student's entire educational and assessment process.
5. Once complete, VLACS will send CHS an official report of what competencies were met. Once confirmation is received, the contract will be reviewed for adherence. If approved, the grade will be changed on the CHS transcript.

This model is new to us and we undoubtedly will need to adjust our *VLACS Competency Recovery* plan to maximize its impact. We look forward to providing this opportunity for students so they can move on and pursue their educational goals.