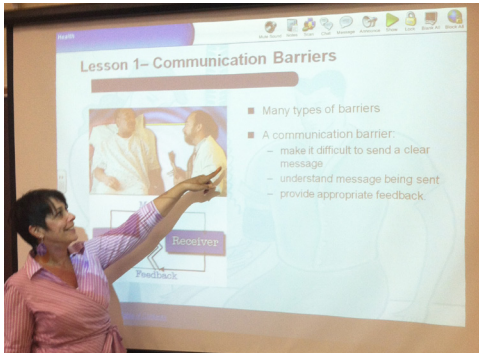


## With HealthCenter21, Assabet Valley Regional Technical High School Provides Effective, Affordable Health Science Content



### Assabet Valley Regional Technical High School

#### SCHOOL TYPE:

Regional Technical High School

#### COURSE TITLES:

- Health Science Exploration
- Health Care Foundations
- Nursing Assistant

#### CONTACT:

Kathy Regan  
 Health Science Instructor  
 Assabet Valley Regional Technical High School  
 215 Fitchburg Street  
 Marlboro, MA 01752  
 kregan@assabet.org

As the student enrollment increased in Health Technologies at Assabet Valley Regional Technical High School, instructors like Kathy Regan faced some new challenges. They now needed to provide nearly three times as many sets of textbooks. And, they now had a much more diverse student body. Looking for an economical and effective solution, Regan found HealthCenter21 online. Here was an online program that made use of their many computers, unexpectedly eliminated the need for all textbooks, and provided the differentiated instructional styles that they needed.

### Situation

The Health Technologies program at Assabet Valley Regional Technical High School nearly tripled in enrollment two years ago. Although thrilled to have more students in the program, Kathy Regan, along with the other instructors, needed to find an economical and effective way to provide the content for the larger class sizes. And the content needed to be able to reach learners with varying strengths and weaknesses. At about the same time, Regan was made aware of the online program that not only provided content, but also provided a means of gauging student understanding with online quizzes and tests. Regan liked this idea as they already had more than enough computers to get started with the program.

Regan began using the program with some skepticism about its effectiveness as a meaningful teaching tool. She began by utilizing the accompanying teacher presentations for lecture. She discovered that the presentation content was the same as the content that the students would study using the online program.

So, Regan took the teacher presentations and enhanced them and catered them to the depth of coverage that she desired.

After a lecture using an enhanced, customized teacher presentation, she assigns students the corresponding units and lessons in HealthCenter21.com for remediation. Then students take the online quizzes provided in the program. Finally, when the topics are completed, Regan has students take the online module test on an appointed day. THAT worked!

### Solution

As a cost-effective solution, HealthCenter21 delivers. Regan explains that “even though there is a price tag on HealthCenter21, they didn’t have to buy 4 to 5 textbooks per student.”

And to address the varying strengths, weaknesses, and learning styles of her students, Regan points out how the narrated, on-screen text and videos reaches all types of learners. Some listen to the narration, others read it to themselves. In the beginning, she had students that would move through the curriculum without taking the time to do either. When they scored poorly on quizzes and tests, they wanted her to reset them and take them again. Her students quickly learned that it was their responsibility to study the material that is provided before taking the quizzes. She tells her students, “I gave you the tools and you know what is expected of you.” With that understanding, students are embracing that responsibility and doing well.

Regan soon found that “more students means more absences.” But she found that HealthCenter21 is “an excellent tool for me because I can put the assignments on the homework forum.” Now, absent students “get the core of the instruction even when they’re not there in class!”

Additionally, Regan is happy with how HealthCenter21 has helped her comply with her administration’s desire for instructors

“HealthCenter21 helps meet those standards that [administrators] want for us as educators,” says Regan.

to see immediate assessment. The quizzes and tests are scored automatically at the time the students complete them. When she sees that a student has performed poorly on a quiz, she can intercede and help that student get back on track before it is time for the module test. “HealthCenter21 helps meet those standards that [administrators] want for us as educators,” says Regan.

## Results

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Kathy is no longer skeptical about the effectiveness of the online HealthCenter21 program. She even surveyed students who had also used one of the textbooks that included software. The students overwhelmingly preferred the online program to the textbook/software combination.

As a bonus, Regan was able to use HealthCenter21’s CPR Methods module to instruct and prepare her students taking the American Heart Association CPR Course. The new AHA test is challenging, particularly for school-age learners. Being able to use HealthCenter21 for remediation in this course has been “very, very helpful.”

Overall, with HealthCenter21, Regan and the other instructors at Assabet Valley Regional Technical High School are able to provide effective, affordable content for all students taking their Health Technologies program.



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