



PARTNERSHIP FOR  
21ST CENTURY SKILLS

**Case Study Description**  
**May 2004**

**Case Study #28:** Bay Shore High School Band

**Area of focus:** arts education

**Location:** Bay Shore, NY (Long Island)

**Basic information:**

**Website:** <http://www.bayshore.k12.ny.us/> ,  
<http://bshs.bayshore.k12.ny.us/cultarts.html> and  
<http://www.glef.org/1139> (article)

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**The Story:**

For the past three years, Bay Shore has been listed as one of the top 100 music programs by the American Music Conference. Bay Shore uses technology as a major part of their music program by making CDs and DVDs and using the school website. Music is a part of the core curriculum and is an important part of the community.

Many of the students compose their own music in the school's technology labs, which are called "a powerful, flexible tool for the creative process." Students work with MIDI (musical instrument digital interface), which allows the students to hear any instrument through a keyboard. As a result, they can compose and get feedback immediately. Students also use the technology labs to create music videos for core subject classes and informational DVDs for the school district, which has saved the district money and allowed students to exercise their creativity and their project management skills. In addition, the music and multimedia classes allow students to focus on self-expression and to use music as a language.

The emphasis on performance has also helped the students improve their confidence, self-esteem, their presentation skills and their teamwork skills.

In Bay Shore, students begin musical training in elementary school. There is a yearly Arts Festival, which is open to the community and draws about 25,000 people.