
2011–12: Our School At a Glance

School Administration

Superintendent:	Robert M. Hudson	Counseling Staff:	Penny Reeves, Manager Counseling of Services
Principal:	Bill Crockett		Rebecca Gearing, Advisory Teacher
Assistant Principals:	Lisa Way (Elementary)		Brooke Lange, Advisory Teacher
	Evan Pinto (Secondary)		Andrea Morris, Advisory Teacher
			Hazel Uy, Advisory Teacher

Community

Our History

Central California Connections Academy (CenCA) is an accredited, public school serving students in grades K–12 from across the state. Our students come from urban, suburban, and rural communities. The school was founded during the 2005–06 school year as a K–12 school. The first 12th grade class graduated in June 2009.

Our Mission

Connections Academy schools have an important mission: to help each student maximize his or her potential and meet the highest performance standards through a uniquely individualized learning program.

Our Central California Connections Academy Program

Central California Connections Academy includes a four-year comprehensive high school program with an enrollment of 221 students. Here are some important facts about the Central California program:

- The school is fully accredited by the Schools Commission of the Western Association of Schools and colleges (WASC).
- Connections Academy's core courses were approved by the University of California during the 2010–11 school year. The Advanced Placement courses were previously approved.
- There are 69 certified/licensed professional staff serving both Central California Connections Academy and its neighboring school, Capistrano Connections Academy. Of those, 23 have earned advanced degrees.
- School is in session 180 days between the months of August and June.

Programs of Study

Central California Connections Academy offers a diverse and comprehensive curriculum, with courses in a wide range of disciplines. The core curriculum is geared toward preparing students for college and beyond. All science courses include hands-on laboratory units. Students have access to AP, Honors, College Preparatory, and Basic programs. Students also have the opportunity to participate in the Post-Secondary Enrollment Options (PSEO) program, whereby they can earn dual high school and college credit by attending post-secondary institutions.

- **AP course offerings** include: Art History, Biology, Calculus, Computer Science, English Language, English Literature, French, Macroeconomics, Microeconomics, Psychology, Spanish, Statistics, U.S. Government, U.S. History, and World History.
- **Honors course offerings** include: Algebra I and II, American Government, Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science, English 9–12, Geometry, Physical Science, Pre-calculus, U.S. History, and World History.

Central California Connections Academy operates on a semester system utilizing Carnegie units. One semester class equals one-half of a high school credit. Students who have taken high school level courses while in middle school may have been granted high school credit. The typical course load is six classes per semester. The typical course load is six classes per semester. Please feel free to view all of our high school courses at <http://www.connectionsacademy.com/california-central-school/curriculum/high-school/high-school-classes.aspx>.

Graduation Requirements and Grade Reporting

In order to graduate, Central California Connections Academy students must pass the California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE) and complete designated coursework. To pass the CAHSEE, students must achieve a score of 350 or higher on each of the two parts: English-Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics. Twenty-two (22) Carnegie units of credits are required for graduation. Specific requirements include:

Area/Subject	# Units for Graduation
Language Arts	4
Math (including Algebra I)	2
Science (including Physical Science and Biology)	3
Social Studies (including U.S. History and Government)	3.5
Health	.5
Physical Education	2
Technology	1
Humanities and Arts	1
Other Electives	5
Total	22

Transcript Abbreviations

NaCA – National Connections Academy course

Grading Scale

Student transcripts reflect weighted grades if the student took Honors or Advanced Placement courses. High School students will be awarded credit only for courses in which they have earned a grade of D- or better. This applies to both courses taken at Connections Academy and at other schools. The numerical grading scale is as follows:

Grade	Numerical Percentage	Non-Weighted	Weighted (honors)	Weighted (AP)
A+	98-100	4.00	4.50	5.00
A	92-97	4.00	4.50	5.00
A-	90-91	3.67	4.17	4.67
B+	88-89	3.33	3.83	4.33
B	82-87	3.00	3.50	4.00
B-	80-81	2.67	3.17	3.67
C+	78-79	2.33	2.83	3.33
C	72-77	2.00	2.50	3.00
C-	70-71	1.67	2.17	2.67
D+	68-69	1.33	1.83	2.33
D	62-67	1.00	1.50	2.00
D-	60-61	0.67	1.17	1.67
F	0-59	0.00	0.00	0.00

Class Rank Policy

Central California Connections Academy will calculate the class rank for each high school student two times per year, shortly after the conclusion of each semester. Students who have not yet successfully completed any high school courses for credit directly from Connections Academy will be excluded from the class rank calculation.

For the purposes of calculating the class rank, the student's cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) will be used, which may include weighted grades for Honors or Advanced Placement courses. Courses transferred in from other accredited institutions will also be included in the class rank as long as there are grades assigned for those courses.

The cumulative GPA is calculated to the hundredth of a point. Students whose class rank rounds off to the same hundredth of a point will be considered tied and will receive the same class rank. The ranking will compare students within the same grade level at the same school. The class rank is not included on the student's official high school transcript, but is available for release upon written request.

Post-Graduation Plans for the Class of 2011

There were 7 students in the Class of 2011. Of those, 4 planned to attend college and 3 planned to enter the work force.

College Matriculation for the Class of 2011

Students in the Class of 2011 were accepted to the following colleges: Johnson & Wales University – Providence, R.I., New England Culinary Institute, Simmons College, and West Coast Baptist College.

High School Virtual Visitation

College and University representatives are cordially invited to connect with our students through web conferencing technology. A two-week advanced notice is greatly appreciated so that we have time to notify students. For more information about setting up a web conference session, please contact **Penny Reeves at 949-461-1667 ext. 314 or preeves@connectionseducation.com**.