

2011–12: Our School At a Glance

School Administration

Superintendent: Tony Scallon

Counseling Staff: Stephanie Harrison

Principal: Melissa Gould

Jesse Rorvig

Assistant Principal: Heather Mansour

Lindsey Redmann

Special Education Coordinator: Josh Ashton

Community

Our History

MTS Minnesota Connections Academy (MTSMCA) is a 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 2004–05 school year as a K–8 school. The school served 9th graders for the first time in 2005–06 and added one grade level each subsequent year until its 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 MTS Minnesota Program

MTS Minnesota Connections Academy has an enrollment of 1,125 students in grades K–12 and includes a four-year comprehensive high school program. Here are some important facts about the MTS Minnesota program as of September 2011:

- The school uses Connections Academy’s program, which is accredited by AdvancEd.
- MTS Minnesota Connections Academy has 47 certified/licensed professional staff. Of those, 23 have earned advanced degrees.
- School is in session 180 days between the months of August and June.
- Six credits per school year are considered a full course load.
- MTS Minnesota Connections Academy has 44 students participating in the Post-Secondary Enrollment Options (PSEO) program throughout the state.

Programs of Study

MTS Minnesota 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 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 AB and BC, Computer Science, English Language, English Literature, Environmental Science, French, Macroeconomics, Microeconomics, Physics B, 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.

MTS Minnesota 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. Please feel free to view all of our high school courses at <http://www.connectionsacademy.com/minnesota-school/curriculum/high-school/high-school-classes.aspx>.

Graduation Requirements and Grade Reporting

Twenty-four (24) Carnegie units of credit are required for graduation. Specific requirements include:

Area/Subject	# Units for Graduation
Language Arts	4
Math	3
Science	3
Social Studies	3.5
Health	1
Physical Education	1
Technology	1
Arts	1
Other Electives	6.5
Total	24

Class Rank Policy

Class rank is calculated twice each year, at the conclusion of each semester. Class rank is based upon the student's cumulative weighted GPA for all high school courses, including transfer courses.

Grading Scale

Student transcripts reflect weighted grades if the student took Honors or Advanced Placement courses. 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	1.33	1.33
D	62-67	1.00	1.00	1.00
D-	60-61	0.67	0.67	0.67
F	0-59	0.00	0.00	0.00

High School Virtual Visitation

College and university representatives are cordially invited to connect with our students through web conferencing technology. Two weeks' notice is greatly appreciated so that we have time to notify students. For more information about setting up a web conference session, please **contact Stephanie Harrison at slharrison@connectionseducation.com or Jesse Rorvig at jrorvig@connectionseducation.com.**

School Test Information and State Test Scores for 2010–11

Average ACT Composite Score: 23 (34 exams taken)

Advanced Placement Profile (May 2011): 11 exams taken in the areas of Biology, Calculus, English Language and Composition, English Literature, Government, Psychology, and U.S. History.

Post-Graduation Plans for the Class of 2011

Of the students in the **Class of 2011**, 35% plan to attend four-year colleges, 65% plan to attend two-year colleges, and 9% plan to pursue vocational training.

Students in the **Class of 2011** have plans to attend the following colleges: Augsburg College; Bemidji State University; Benedictine College; Buffalo State College; College of St. Benedict; College of St. Scholastica; Concordia College: Moorhead and St. Paul; Franciscan University of Steubenville; Hamline University; Hope College; Minnesota School of Business: Plymouth; Minnesota State University: Mankato and Moorhead; North Dakota State University; Oak Hills Christian College; Pace University; Saint Cloud State University; St. Catherine University; St. John's University; Stony Brook University; University at Albany; University at Buffalo; University of Bridgeport; University of Minnesota: Crookston, Duluth, and Morris; University of North Dakota; University of St. Thomas; University of Wisconsin: La Crosse and Superior; Valley City State University; Viterbo University; and Winona State University.