

2011–12: Our School At a Glance

School Administration

Superintendent:	Dr. Wayne Brazell	Counseling Staff:	Kathryn Fuchs, Manager of Counseling Services
Executive Director:	Alison R. Reaves		Rachel Goodrich
Secondary Principal:	Amanda Ebel		Heather Kus
Assistant Principals:	Jennifer Lawrence		Shea McConahay
	David Potts		Cedric Swiggins
	Joshua Kitchens		Aleta Zeiler

Community

Our History

South Carolina Connections Academy (SCCA) 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 2008–09 school year as a K–12 school and 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 South Carolina Program

South Carolina Connections Academy includes a four-year comprehensive high school program with an enrollment of approximately 1,100 students. Here are some important facts about the South Carolina program:

- The school is fully accredited through the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) through AdvancED.
- South Carolina Connections Academy has 75 certified/licensed professional teachers. Of those, 60% have earned graduate degrees, and 1 is National Board Certified.
- Students complete lessons virtually by doing independent research, book work, hands on laboratory assignments, extensive portfolios, and rigorous standardized assessments.
- School is in session 180 days between the months of August and June.

Programs of Study

South Carolina 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. Students have access to AP, Honors, College Preparatory, and Basic programs. Students 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.

- **Advanced Placement course offerings** include: Art History, Biology, Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Computer Science, English Language, English Literature, Environmental Science, French, Macroeconomics, Physics, Psychology, Spanish Language, Statistics, U.S. Government, U.S. History, and World History.
- **Honors course offerings** include: Algebra II, American Government, Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science, Earth Space Science, English 9–12, Geometry, Marine Science, Physical Science, Pre-calculus, U.S. History, and World History.

South Carolina 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/south-carolina-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 (including Algebra and Geometry)	4
Science (including Physical Science and Biology)	3
Social Studies (including U.S. History, Government, and Economics)	3
Health	1
Physical Education	1
Technology	1
Humanities and Arts	1
Other Electives	6
Total	24

Grading Scale

South Carolina Connections Academy uses the South Carolina Uniform Grading Scale. Student transcripts reflect weighted grades if the student took Honors or Advanced Placement courses. No credit is awarded for grades of 70% or less.

Class Rank Policy

South Carolina Connections Academy will calculate the class rank for each high school student two times per year. For the purposes of calculating the class rank, the student's cumulative Grade Point Average (G.P.A.) will be used, which may include weighted grades for Honors or Advanced Placement courses.

School Test Information State Test Scores for 2010–11

State Testing for Spring 2011

HSAP Scores: English Language Arts school average: 224

Mathematics school average: 211

College Testing for 2010–11

ACT school average: 24

SAT school average: Critical Reading: 549

Mathematics: 523

Writing: 513

Advanced Placement Testing for 2010–11

South Carolina Connections Academy had 8 students take Advanced Placement exams in English Language, English Literature, Microeconomics, Psychology, U.S. Government, and World History during the 2010–11 school year. Half of these students scored a 3 or better and one student scored a 5 on the English Language exam.

Post-Graduation Plans for the Class of 2011

<u>Plans</u>	<u>% of Students</u>
Four-year colleges	39%
Two-year colleges	38%
Military	3%
Employment	11%
Undecided	9%

College Matriculation for Class of 2011

Students in the **Class of 2011** attended the following schools: Allen University, Anderson University, Augusta State University, Bob Jones University, The Citadel, Charleston Southern, University, Clemson University, Coastal Carolina University, College of Charleston, Columbia College, Francis Marion University, Furman University, Lander University, Liberty University, South Carolina State University, United States Air Force Academy, University of Central Florida, University of North Carolina at Asheville, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, University of South Carolina, University of South Carolina Upstate, and Wellesley 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 **Kathryn Fuchs** at kfuchs@connectionseducation.com.