

i ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

OUR MISSION

To exemplify a collaborative virtual school where our students meet high expectations through mastery of challenging academic material in preparation for successful college and career experiences.

OUR HISTORY

Georgia Connections Academy is an accredited, public charter school currently serving students in grades 5-12 from across the state of Georgia. Our students come from urban, suburban, and rural communities. The school was originally founded during the 2011-12 school year as a K-8 school. Georgia Connections Academy added high school during the 2012-13 school year and graduated its first class May 2013.

OUR PROGRAM

Georgia Connections Academy includes a four-year comprehensive high school program with an enrollment of over 2600 students. Here are some important facts about the program:

- Georgia Connections Academy is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges & Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (SACS CASI), an accrediting division of AdvancED.
- The district has over 163 certified/licensed professional staff. Of those, over 112 have earned advanced degrees and all are highly qualified.
- School is in session 180 days between the months of August and May.
- Active chapters with the National Beta Club, National Honor Society, National Art Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society, National English Honor Society, Social Studies Honor Society and National Math Honor Society. Our counseling program has earned RAMP designation as a Recognized ASCA Model Program, committed to delivering a comprehensive, data-driven school counseling program.



ADVANCED COURSE OPTIONS

Georgia Connections Academy's core curriculum is geared toward preparing students for college and beyond. Students have access to AP, Honors, College Preparatory, and On-Level programs. Students also have the opportunity to participate in Georgia's Dual Enrollment program, in which they can earn dual high school and college credit by attending post-secondary institutions.

AP course offerings include: Art History, Biology, Calculus AB, Computer Science, English Language, English Literature, Environmental Science, Human Geography, Macroeconomics, Psychology, Spanish Language, Statistics, US Government, and US History.

Honors course offerings include: Algebra, Algebra 2, American Government, Biology, Chemistry, English 9–12, Geometry, Pre-calculus, U.S. History, and World History.

View all of our high school courses and descriptions at <http://www.connectionsacademy.com/georgia-virtual-school/curriculum/high-school/courses>

CONTACT INFORMATION

<https://www.connectionsacademy.com/georgia-virtual-school>

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SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

Executive Director:

Brazilia Bilal-Page

Lead Principal:

Caroline Fernandez

High School Principal:

Jennifer Boyter

High School Assistant Principal:

Brooke Parker

Lower School Principal:

Amy Wilcox

Lower School Assistant Principal:

Tricia Weatherspoon

Director of Counseling:

David Levin

High School Counseling Staff:

Sara Tran (Head HS Counselor), Barb Wilson (9-10th A-D), John DeRosso (9-10th E-K), Stephanie Remon (9-10th L-R), Paul Harrelson (9-10th S-Z), Belina Hobin (11-12th A-G), Shenika Davis (11-12th H-O), Michelle Weiberg (11-12th P-Z), Karla Garfield (11-12th PUSH Academy)

Lower School Counseling Staff:

T'wana Huff (Head LS Counselor), Stephanie Sexton (5-6th), Amber Woods (7th) Rose Robinson (8th)

SCHOOL AND FACULTY ACCOLADES

Our high school counseling program has earned RAMP designation as a Recognized ASCA Model Program

ACCREDITATION





GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Georgia 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.

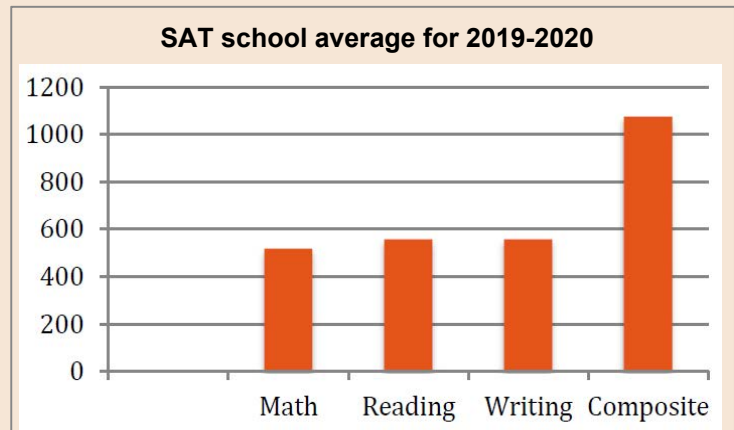
23 Carnegie units of credit are required for graduation. Specific requirements include:

Area/Subjects	#Units for Graduation
Language Arts	4
Algebra 1	1
Geometry	1
Additional Math	2
Science	4
Social Studies	3
Health	.5
Personal Fitness	.5
Other Elective	7
Total	23

PLANS FOR CLASS OF 2020

Plan	%
Technical college	15.4
Four-year college	35.9
Employment	28.4
Vocational Training	5.1
Military	3.5
Other	11.7

AVERAGE TEST SCORES



ACT school average for 2019-2020

ACT 2019-2020 school averages have not been released by ACT at the time this profile was published.

Advanced Placement Scores

62% of GACA students scored a 3 or above on AP exams in 2020; In addition we had 6 AP scholars, a National AP Scholar, and an AP Scholar with Distinction.



COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES

Students in the Class of 2020 earned total college scholarship awards in the amount of \$5,475,874 and were accepted to the following colleges:

College of Charleston, George Washington University, Fordham University, Georgia College and State University, Georgia Institute of Technology, Georgia State University, Hofstra University, Mercer University, Morehouse College, Oglethorpe University, the Ohio State University, University of Georgia, University of Hawaii, University of North Georgia, Wheaton College, University of California Irvine, University of Pittsburgh, University of West Georgia, University of Wisconsin, Xavier University

 **GRADE SCALE**

Student transcripts reflect weighted grades if the student took Honors or Advanced Placement courses. The numerical grading scale is as follows:

Grade	Grade %	Passing?	Non-Weighted	Weighted (Honors)	Weighted (AP)
A	90 – 100	Yes	4.00	4.50	5.00
B	80 – 89	Yes	3.00	3.50	4.00
C	70 – 79	Yes	2.00	2.50	3.00
F	0 – 69	No	0.00	0.00	0.00

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.

 **HIGH SCHOOL VIRTUAL VISITATION**

College representatives are invited to connect with our students through web conferencing technology. Two weeks' notice is greatly appreciated so that we have time to notify students. We also hold a college fair every fall. For more information about setting up a web conference session or participating in our annual college fair, please contact Dave Levin at DLevin@gaca.connectionsacademy.org.