

ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

Our History

Minnesota Connections Academy (MNCA) 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 2004-05 school year as a K-8 school. The school's first 12th grade class graduated in June 2009.

Our Vision

The vision of Minnesota Connection Academy is through our collaborative work and dedication to student achievement, all MNCA students will achieve high levels of learning.

Our Mission

The mission of Minnesota Connections Academy is to maximize academic achievement for students throughout the state of Minnesota who seek an alternative to the traditional classroom.

OUR PROGRAM

Minnesota Connections Academy (MNCA) includes a four-year comprehensive high school program with an enrollment of over 2037 students grades K-12. Here are some important facts about the program:

- Minnesota Connections Academy is accredited by AdvancEd.
- The school has 80 certified/ licensed professional staff. Of those, 37 have earned advanced degrees and all are highly qualified.
- School is in session 180 days between the months of August and June.
- We have over 133 courses that are NCAA Certified.
- MNCA is proud to have both a National Honor Society and Junior National Honor Society.



SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION:

Principal: Melissa Gould

Assistant Principals: Robin Togstad Percival, Brad Swanson, Anne Wasmund

Manager of Counseling: Stephanie Becker

Counseling Staff: Laura Kapitan, Nicole Klein

SAMPLING OF UNIVERSITY ACCEPTANCES

Students in the Class of 2017 earned total college scholarship awards in the amount of \$2,579,810 and were accepted to the following colleges:

Augsburg College
Ball State University
Biola University
Bethel University
Carnegie Mellon University
Cincinnati Conservatory of Music
College of St. Scholastica
Colorado State University
Hamline University
Iowa State University
Luther College
Minneapolis College of Art and Design
North Dakota State University
Northwestern University
Ohio State University
Robert Morris University
University of Connecticut
University of Minnesota – Twin Cities
University of Minnesota – Duluth
University of Vermont
Wartburg College
Winona State University

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Minnesota Connections Academy (MNCA) 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.

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

Area/Subjects	# Units for Graduation
Language Arts	4
Math*	3
Science**	3
Social Studies	3.5
Health	0.5
Physical Education	0.5
Humanities & Arts	1
Other Electives	6
Total	21.5

*Geometry, Algebra 2, Additional Math

**Biology, Chemistry or Physics and an Additional Science

COURSE OFFERINGS

Minnesota Connections Academy’s core curriculum is geared toward preparing students for college and beyond. Students have access to AP, Honors, College Preparatory, and Basic programs. Students also have the opportunity to participate in the Postsecondary Enrollment Options (PSEO) program, where they can earn dual high school and college credit by attending post-secondary institutions. MNCA has 72 students participating in the PSEO program in the 2017-2018 School Year.

AP course offerings include: Biology, Calculus, English Language and Composition, English Literature and Composition, Psychology and United States History.

Honors course offerings include: English 9-12, Algebra I & II, Geometry, Precalculus, Physical Science, Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science, U.S. History, American Government, United States History, and World History.

TESTING STATISTICS

ACT school averages for 2016–17:

Math	24
Reading.....	22
English	24
Science	24
Writing.....	7
Composite	24

AP results for 2016–17:

- 6 students took a total of 10 AP Exams in the Spring of 2016.

PLANS FOR THE CLASS OF 2017

Plan	%
Two-year college	23
Four-year college	25
Employment	42
Vocational Training	4
Military	3
Other	3
Total	100

Please view all of our high school 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	1.83	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



Transcript Abbreviations

- CO** Course completed
- EN** Scheduled in section
- IP** Active in section
- PC** Student has completed course and teacher is finishing grading
- WF** Failing grade at time of withdrawal from course
- WP** Passing grade at time of withdrawal from course

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.

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. For more information about setting up a web conference session, please contact:

Stephanie Becker - sbecker@mnca.connectionsacademy.org

Laura Kapitan - lkapitan@mnca.connectionsacademy.org

Nicole Klein - nklein@mnca.connectionsacademy.org