

### 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 2700 students grades K-12. Here are some important facts about the program:

- Elementary NEHS
- Minnesota Connections Academy is accredited by AdvancEd.
- The school has 105 certified/licensed professional staff. Of those, 45 have earned advanced degrees and all are highly qualified.
- School is in session 174 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:** Kelley Munson, Robin Togstad Percival, Brad Swanson, Anne Wasmund

**Manager of Counseling:** Stephanie Becker

**Counseling Staff:** Jennifer Grimm, Jessica Hagen, Laura Kapitan, Nicole Klein

### SAMPLING OF UNIVERSITY ACCEPTANCES

Students in the Class of 2018 earned total college scholarship awards in the amount of \$722,738 and were accepted to the following colleges:

Bemidji State University  
Bethel University  
Concordia University: St. Paul  
Florida Gulf Coast University  
Hamline University  
Minneapolis College of Art and Design  
Minnesota State University Mankato  
Niagara University  
Ohio State University  
Southern New Hampshire University  
Southwest Minnesota State University  
St. Catherine University  
St. Cloud State University  
St. Olaf College  
Suffolk University  
Texas Christian University  
University of Minnesota – Duluth  
University of Minnesota – Twin Cities  
University of New Mexico  
University of Northwestern  
University of St. Thomas  
University of Wisconsin – La Crosse  
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
<b>Total</b>	<b>21.5</b>

\*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 85 students participating in the PSEO program in the 2018-2019 School Year.

**AP course offerings include:** Human Geography, American Government & Politics, and United States History.

**Honors course offerings include:** English 9-12, Algebra I and II, Geometry, Pre-Calculus, Physical Science, Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science, U.S. History, American Government, and World History.

### TESTING STATISTICS

#### ACT school averages for 2017–18:

Math .....	19.5
Reading.....	23
English .....	20.4
Science .....	21
Composite .....	21.1

#### AP results for 2017–18:

- 7 students took a total of 7 AP Exams in the Spring of 2018.

### PLANS FOR THE CLASS OF 2018

Plan	%
Two-year college	22
Four-year college	17
Employment	48
Vocational Training	6
Military	4
Other	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

**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 G.P.A. 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](mailto:sbecker@mnca.connectionsacademy.org)

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