

i 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 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 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 PROGRAM

Minnesota Connections Academy (MNCA) includes a four-year comprehensive high school program with an enrollment of over 4500 students in grades K-12. Here are some important facts about the program:

- Minnesota Connections Academy is accredited by the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement (NCA CASI), which is accredited by Cognia, formerly AdvancED.
- School is in session 173 days between the months of August and June.
- We have over 133 courses that are NCAA Certified.
- MNCA is proud to have a National Honor Society, a Junior National Honor Society and a National Elementary Honor Society



ADVANCED COURSE OPTIONS

Minnesota Connections Academy's core curriculum is geared toward preparing students for college and beyond. Students have access to AP, Honors, College Preparatory, and Standard 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 120 students participating in the PSEO program in the 2020-2021 School Year.

AP course offerings include: Art History, Biology, Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Computer Science, English Language and Composition, English Literature and Composition, Environmental Science, Human Geography, Macroeconomics, Microeconomics, Psychology, Spanish Language, Statistics, United States 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.

CONTACT INFORMATION

[www.connectionsacademy.com/
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St. Paul, MN 55108

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SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

PRINCIPAL: Melissa Gould

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL(S):

Alyssa DeGroot (K-2)

Michael Hasapopoulos (3-5)

Annika Maus (6-8)

Lisa Jacobson Flood (8-9)

Kelley Munson (9-10)

Tung Pham (11-12)

MANAGER OF COUNSELING:

Nicole Klein

COUNSELING STAFF:

Jennifer Grimm, Jessica Hagen,
Laura Kapitan, Nicholas Behrends,
Robin Laudenbach, Lindsay
Letourneau, Katherine Anderson

SCHOOL AND FACULTY ACCOLADES

The school has 145 certified/licensed professional staff. Of those, 77 have earned advanced degrees and all are highly qualified.



TOP 5 ELITE SCHOOLS ACCEPTANCES

University of Minnesota-Twin Cities
University of St. Thomas
Gustavus Adolphus
St. Catherine's University
The College and Conservatory of
the Performing Arts



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.

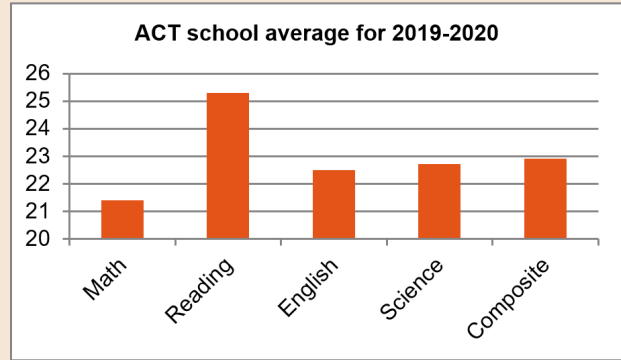
21.5 Carnegie units of credit are required for graduation. Specific requirements include:

Area/Subjects	#Units for Graduation
Language Arts	4
Math*	3
Science**	3
Social Studies	3.5
Health	.5
Physical Education	.5
Humanities & Arts	1
Other Electives	6
Total	21.5

*Geometry, Algebra 2, Additional Math

**Physical/Earth Science, Biology, Chemistry or Physics

AVERAGE TEST SCORES



PLANS FOR THE CLASS OF 2020

Post-Grad Plan	%
Two-year college	24%
Four-year college	13%
Employment	49%
Vocational Training, Military, Other	13%
Total	100%

In response to COVID-19, MNCA followed the recommendations made by the Minnesota Department of Education regarding adjusting grading policies during Spring semester of the 2019-20 school year.

MNCA implemented an early intervention tracking system to identify and support students in achieving on-time graduation.

Starting in the Fall of the 2020-2021 school year, in response to COVID-19, MNCA initiated Star 360, a nationally recognized diagnostic tool, to assess for learning gaps.



GRADE 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	.67	1.17	1.67
F	0-59	0.00	0.00	0.00