

ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

Our History

Washington Connections Academy is a tuition-free, virtual public school, affiliated with the Mary M. Knight School District, serving students in grades K-11 from across the state. Our students come from urban, suburban, and rural communities. The school was founded during the 2016-2017 school year as a K-8 school and has expanded to grades K-11 for the 2018-2019 school year. A grade level will be added each year until Washington Connections Academy is a K-12 school with it's first graduating class in 2020.

Our Mission

Our Mission is to work collaboratively with colleagues, students, and parents to build the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary to achieve our shared academic goals.

OUR PROGRAM

Washington Connections Academy will include a comprehensive high school program with a projected enrollment of 1520 students in grades K-11. Here are some important facts about our program:

- Connections Academy schools are supported by Connections Education LLC, dba Pearson Online & Blended Learning, which is accredited by AdvancED.
- The school has 45 certified/licensed professional staff. Of those, 24 have earned advanced degrees.
- School is in session 180 days between the months of September and June.
- Students on the traditional pacing are able to earn up to 7 credits during the school year. The typical course load is 7 classes per semester.
- The school 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 the opportunity to be granted high school credit.



SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION:

Principal: Mike Lunde

Assistant Principal K-7: Ann Hopkins-Austin

Assistant Principal 8-11: Carrie Meadows

Manager of Counseling: Melissa Rasmussen

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

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

Area/Subjects	# Units for Graduation
Language Arts	4
Mathematics	3
Science*	3
Social Studies	3
Arts**	2
World Language***	2
Health and P.E.	2
Career and Technical Ed.	1
Electives	4
Total	24

*2 Lab Sciences are required

**Arts 1 can be a Personalized Pathway Requirement

***Both World Language credits can be Personalized Pathway Requirement

Non-Credit Requirements:

1. Completion of a High School and Beyond Plan
2. Successful Completion of Washington State History
3. Meet graduation score High School English Language Arts Smarter Balanced Assessment
4. Meet graduation score High School math Smarter Balanced Assessment
5. Biology End-of-Course Exam

COURSE OFFERINGS

Washington Connections Academy’s core curriculum is geared toward preparing students for college and beyond. Students have access to Honors, College Preparatory, and Basic programs.

Honors course offerings include: English 9th to 11th, Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Precalculus, Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science, Marine Science, Physical Science, United States History, World History

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

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	3.7	4.17	4.7
B+	88–89	3.3	3.83	4.3
B	82–87	3.0	3.50	4.0
B-	80–81	2.7	3.17	3.7
C+	78–79	2.3	2.83	3.3
C	72–77	2.0	2.50	3.0
C-	70–71	1.7	2.17	2.7
D+	68–69	1.3	1.83	2.3
D	62–67	1.0	1.50	2.0
D-	60–61	0.7	1.17	1.7
F	0–59	0.0	0.0	0.0

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.

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.

TESTING

Washington Connections Academy adheres to all state testing requirements and additionally encourages students to take the appropriate college entrance and preparatory exams necessary for reaching their personal and academic goals. **Required State Testing:**

- Smarter Balanced Assessment

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 Melissa Rasmussen, Coordinator of Counseling, at mmasmussen@waca.connectionsacademy.org