

ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

OUR MISSION

Students, parents, and teachers work collaboratively to ensure that all students experience a positive, caring, and personalized learning environment through which they are able to maximize their potential and meet the highest performance standards.

OUR PROGRAM

Florida Connections Academy is a full-time, virtual, public, charter school that offers a rigorous academic program to students in grades K-11 and operates under the authorization of Hillsborough County Public Schools in Tampa, Florida.

STUDENT POPULATION

FCA opened its doors to K-8 students in the 2018-2019 school year, with intent to expand into grades 9-12 each subsequent year. It has an enrollment of nearly 4,000 students with a high school population of nearly 1,000 students. We serve students with a variety of unique talents, strengths, and needs from almost every one of Florida's 67 counties.

CURRICULUM

Florida Connections Academy offers a diverse and comprehensive curriculum that is aligned with Florida Standards as mandated by the Florida Department of Education. Courses include a wide range of disciplines at various levels of rigor. The core curriculum is geared toward preparing students for college and beyond. We are currently offering many Honors, AP and Dual Enrollment courses.

CONTACT INFORMATION

ConnectionsAcademy.com

5805 Breckenridge Parkway Ste. E
Tampa, FL 33620

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Phone: 813-291-0550

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Esilda Ross

HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL: Kimberly Acosta

MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL: Mollie McBroom

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL: Dana Gill

MANAGER OF COUNSELING SERVICES:

Kelly Gattuso

MANAGER OF SPECIAL EDUCATION:

Jamie Worrell

SCHOOL AND FACULTY ACCOLADES

Many of our teachers and staff hold multiple state teaching certifications in a variety of areas, along with master's degrees and higher.

ACCREDITATIONS

Connections Academy schools are supported by Connections Education LLC, which is accredited by AdvancED Florida Connections Academy plans on applying for accreditation through SACS CASI in school year 2021-22.

ADVANCED COURSE OPTIONS

Current AP Course Offerings Include: Human Geography, Psychology, and United States History

Current Honors Course Offerings Include: Algebra I, Algebra II, Biology, Chemistry, English 1, English II, English III, Geometry, Physical Science, Pre-Calculus, Probability and Statistics, and World History.

Dual Enrollment Course Offerings Include: Florida Connections Academy partners with the University of South Florida for the Dual Enrollment program, which is available to qualifying students in grades 10 and higher.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Florida Connections Academy operates on a semester system. One semester class equals one-half (0.5) of a high school credit. Students who have taken high school courses while in middle school may have been granted high school credit. The typical course load is six classes per semester. 24 credits are required for graduation. Specific requirements include:

| Area/Subjects | #Units for Graduation |
|---|-----------------------|
| Language Arts | 4 |
| Math | 4 |
| Science | 3 |
| Social Studies | 3 |
| Physical Education with Health | 1 |
| Fine/Performing or Practical Arts/Speech & Debate | 1 |
| Other Electives | 8 |
| Total | 24 |

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 | GPA Points 4-point scale | Advanced Courses | AP or Dual Enrollment |
|----------|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| A | 90-100 | 4.00 | 4.04 | 4.08 |
| B | 80-89 | 3.00 | 3.04 | 3.08 |
| C | 70-79 | 2.00 | 2.04 | 2.08 |
| D | 60-69 | 1.00 | 1.04 | 1.08 (AP only, not DE) |
| F | Below 60 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |

TESTING INFORMATION

Florida Connections Academy adheres to all state and national 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

FSA ELA and Math, Grades 3 - 10

Statewide Science Assessment, Grades 5 & 8

End-of-Course (EOC) Assessments: Algebra 1, Geometry, Biology 1, U.S. History, or Civics

FLKRS (Florida Kindergarten Readiness Screener)
ACCESS for ELLs

Advanced Placement (AP) Assessments: Based on course enrollment