

2022-2023 School Profile

CEEB Code # 443201

ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

Texas Connections Academy @ Houston (TCAH) is Story 4. We believe that all employees and students can grow at relatively high levels of achievement in order to master challenging school systems. We are confident that, with our support and help, and by working collaboratively with colleagues, students, and parents, we will create an environment in our workplace that will help us achieve this shared professional purpose.

OUR MISSION

Everyone at TCAH will be highly successful in our personalized learning community as they pursue their dreams.

OUR HISTORY

TCAH is a Texas Online School (TOLS) that offers 100% virtual instruction to public school students across Texas in grades 3-12 who are not physically present on a campus during instruction. The TOLS program is authorized by Texas Education Code (TEC) Chapter 30A, administered through Texas Education Agency (TEA). The school was founded during the 2009-10 school year as a 3-8 school and became a public high school in 2011-2012. TCAH is an accredited public school as part of the Houston Independent School District (HISD). Pearson Virtual Schools USA is in partnership with HISD to provide TCAH as an External Performance Contract Campus. (Connections Academy schools are supported by Connections Education LLC, dba Pearson Virtual Schools, which is accredited by Cognia.)

OUR PROGRAM

Texas Connections Academy offers grades 9-12 with over 3500+ students. Here are some important facts about our program:

- The school has 399 professional certified/licensed professional staff; 60% have earned advanced degrees.
- Our school has an active chapter of the National and Junior National Honor Society along with numerous opportunities for field trips and organized college campus visits.

CONTACT INFORMATION

<https://www.connectionsacademy.com/texas-virtual-school/>

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SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

DIRECTOR OF SCHOOL OPERATIONS:

Brita Lindsey, EdD

INSTRUCTIONAL LEADER – LEAD SCHOOL PRINCIPAL:

Amanda Viola

PRINCIPAL(S):

Lorin Watkins 3-8

Candice Ayala 9-12

MANAGER OF SPECIAL POPULATIONS:

Angela Vinson

ASSISTANT MANAGER OF SPECIAL POPULATIONS:

Holley Prescott

SENIOR MANAGER OF COUNSELING:

KT Trimbur-Glenn

ASSISTANT MANAGER OF COUNSELING:

Lindsey Lillard

TOP 5 IN STATE ELITE SCHOOL ACCEPTANCES

Texas A&M University

Texas State University

University of Texas

Baylor University

University of Houston

TOP 5 OUT OF STATE ELITE SCHOOL ACCEPTANCES

University of North Carolina @ Chapel Hill

Brigham Young University

Princeton University

The Ohio State University

University of Oregon

• As a nationwide network of charter schools, Connections Academy groups all schools together for clubs and students can participate in Broadcast Club, Chess Club, Debate Club, Math Olympiads, and Robotics Clubs - our school does not participate in any traveling club, student council or team competitions. As an online school, our students have the advantage of participating in many opportunities not afforded to brick and mortar students due to the flexibility provided. Our students are/have been nationally ranked athletes, professional working actors, and actresses, entrepreneurs running their own businesses, activists, community volunteers, and those participating in advanced academic endeavors. Our students are consistent finalists for National Merit. The school was founded during the 2012-13 school year as a K-12 school. School is in session for 1,200 hours between the months of August and May.

ADVANCED COURSE OPTIONS

Texas Connections Academy core curriculum prepares students for college and beyond. Students have access to Dual Credit, AP and Advanced courses.

TCAH offers **dual credit** programs through University of Texas at San Antonio, Collin College, Houston Community College, San Jacinto Community College, Austin Community College, Lamar Institute of Technology, & Lone Star Community College for the 2022-23 school year that will include online and face to face courses so that students from across the state can benefit from this opportunity.

AP Course Offerings Include: Biology, Calculus AB, English Language & Composition, English Literature and Composition, Human Geography, Macroeconomics, Psychology, Research, Seminar, Spanish Language, Statistics, United States Government and United States History

Advanced Course Offerings Include: Algebra I and II, Biology, Chemistry, English 1 & 2, Geometry, Pre-Calculus, and World History.

GRADE SCALE

Student transcripts reflect weighted grades if the student took Advanced Pre-AP or Advanced Placement courses.

The numerical grading scale is as follows:

Grade	Numerical Percentage	Non-Weighted	Weighted (Pre-AP)	Weighted (AP)
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A	90-100	4.00	5.00	5.00
B	80-89	3.00	4.00	4.00
C	75-79	2.00	3.00	3.00
D	70-74	1.00	2.00	2.00
F	0-69	0.00	0.00	0.00

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Texas Connections Academy operates on a semester system utilizing Carnegie units. One semester class equals one-half of a high school credit. Students in middle school have the opportunity to take courses for high school credit. The typical course load is 7 classes per semester. 26 units of credit are required for graduation. Specific requirements include:

Area/Subjects	#Units for Graduation
Language Arts	4
Math	4
Science	4
Social Studies	4
Health	.5
Physical Education	1
World Language	2
Fine Arts	1
Other Electives	5.5
Total	26

Additional Information:

Math courses must include:

- Algebra 1
- Geometry
- Algebra 2

Science courses must include:

- Biology
- Chemistry and/or Physics

Social Studies courses must include:

- World Geography
- World History
- US History
- Government (0.5)
- Economics (0.5)

Average Test Scores

- Results for 2021–2022
- 407 students enrolled in AP Courses

