

# 2021-2022 School Profile

CEEB Code # 241689

## 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 3500 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. MNCA had 39 students participate in AP Courses during the 2020-2021 school year. 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 135 students participating in the PSEO program in the 2021-2022 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, Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science, Physics, Economics, U.S. History, American Government, and World History.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

[www.connectionsacademy.com/minnesota-online-school](http://www.connectionsacademy.com/minnesota-online-school)

1350 Energy Lane, Suite 230  
St. Paul, MN 55108

**Fax:** 651-726-2917

**Phone:** 651-523-0888

## SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:** Brad Swanson

**K-8 PRINCIPAL:** Melissa Gould

**ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS:** Alyssa DeGroot,

Todd Peterson, Annika Maus, Heather

Mansour, Michael Hasapopoulos

**DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL EDUCATION:**

Colleen Carlson

**MANAGER OF COUNSELING:** Nicole Klein

**COUNSELING STAFF:** Jennifer Grimm,

Jessica Hagen, Laura Kapitan, Nicholas

Behrends, Robin Laudenbach, Lindsay

Letourneau

## ACCREDITATIONS



## TOP 5 ELITE SCHOOL ACCEPTANCES

University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

University of St. Thomas

Gustavus Adolphus College

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	0.5
Physical Education	0.5
Fine Arts	1
Electives	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>21.5</b>

\*Geometry, Algebra 2, Additional Math

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

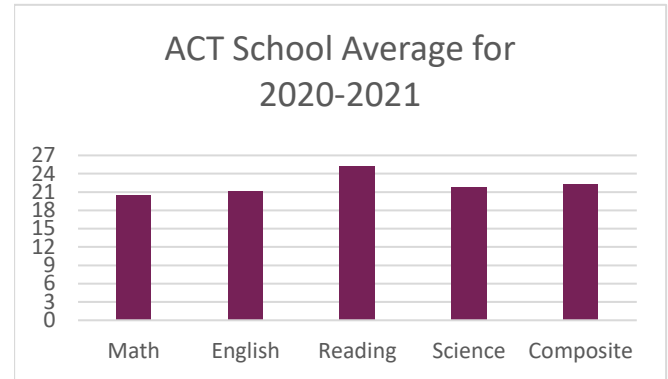
## COVID-19

In response to COVID-19, MNCA followed the recommendations made by the Minnesota Department of Education regarding adjusting grading policies **during the 2020-2021 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 Renaissance Star 360, a nationally recognized diagnostic tool, to assess for learning gaps.

## AVERAGE TEST SCORES



## PLANS FOR THE CLASS OF 2021

Plan	%
Two-Year College	22
Four-Year College	20
Employment	46
Vocational Training, Military, Other	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>

## 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)
<b>A+</b>	98-100	4.00	4.50	5.00
<b>A</b>	92-97	4.00	4.50	5.00
<b>A-</b>	90-91	3.67	4.17	4.67
<b>B+</b>	88-89	3.33	3.83	4.33
<b>B</b>	82-87	3.00	3.50	4.00
<b>B-</b>	80-81	2.67	3.17	3.67
<b>C+</b>	78-79	2.33	2.83	3.33
<b>C</b>	72-77	2.00	2.50	3.00
<b>C-</b>	70-71	1.67	2.17	2.67
<b>D+</b>	68-69	1.33	1.83	2.33
<b>D</b>	62-67	1.00	1.50	2.00
<b>D-</b>	60-61	.67	1.17	1.67
<b>F</b>	0-59	0.00	0.00	0.00