

ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

OUR MISSION

To help each student maximize his or her potential and meet the highest performance standards through a uniquely individualized learning program.

OUR VISION

We see an engaged community fostering student success. We see an exemplary team that is committed to each other and our students. We see NMCA as an innovative cutting-edge school.

OUR PROGRAM

New Mexico Connections Academy is approved by the NM Public Education Department and an accredited, public charter school serving students in grades 4-12 across the state. NMCA includes a four-year comprehensive high school program. The school was founded in the 2013-14 school year, with the first senior class graduating in May 2014. NMCA is a rigorous alternative to the traditional public school that encourages students to maximize their individual learning potential in a more flexible environment. The curriculum at NMCA is challenging and well designed to prepare students for their post-high school choices, and all curriculum is taught by New Mexico certified teachers.

Important facts about the program:

- New Mexico Connections Academy is accredited by the North Central Association Commission Accreditation and School Improvement (NCA CASI), an accrediting division of Cognia.
- The school has 86 certified/licensed professional staff.
- School is in session 180 days between August and May.
- Students can earn a maximum of 7.5 credits during the school year.

STUDENT POPULATION

Our students come from urban, suburban, and rural communities. Our current enrollment cap is 1420, which includes a limit of 200 for seniors. Student demographics include: White (30%), Hispanic (50%), Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander (1%), African American (6%), Asian (3%), and American Indian or Alaskan Native (10%).

ADVANCED COURSE OPTIONS

- **AP Course Offerings Include:** Biology, Calculus AB, Computer Science A, Psychology, English Language & Composition, English Literature and Composition, and U.S. History.
- **Honors Course Offerings Include:** Algebra I and II, American Government, Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science, English 9-12, Geometry, Physical Science, Physics, Pre-Calculus, U.S. History, and World History.

CONTACT INFORMATION

<https://www.connectionsacademy.com/new-mexico-online-school>

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Santa Fe, NM 87505

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SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Sandy Beery

PRINCIPAL: Jolene Ortiz

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL: Mia Anderson

DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL ED:

Shannon Vasquez

INSTRUCTIONAL COACH: Sam Obenshain

LEAD COUNSELOR:

Karen Kaufman

COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

4th-8th GRADE: Marissa Tapia

9th GRADE: Felicia Lopez

10th GRADE: Diane Dominguez

11th GRADE: Bernadette Rael

12th GRADE: Kim Chavez

COLLEGE AND CAREER COUNSELOR:

Karen Kaufman

SOCIAL WORKER:

Nancy Baca

Melissa Amador

ACCREDITATIONS



SAMPLING OF COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES

New Mexico State University
Central New Mexico Community College
San Juan College
University of New Mexico

2023-2024 SCHOOL PROFILE

CEEB Code # 320608

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

New Mexico Connections Academy 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 seven classes per semester.

Area/Subjects	#Units for Graduation
Language Arts	4
Math	4
Science*	3
Social Studies	3.5
Health	0.5
Physical Education	1
Career Cluster	1
Other Electives	8
Total	25

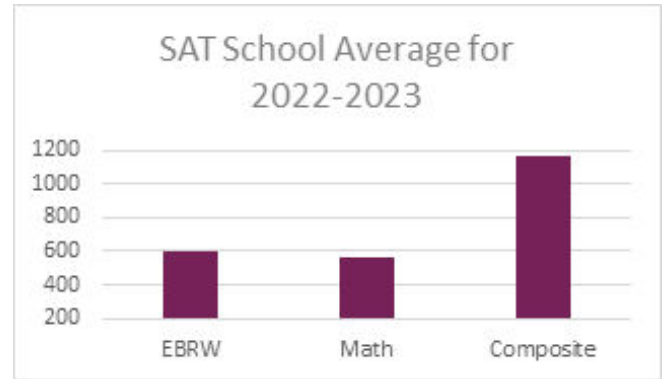
*Two science courses must be lab courses

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
	0-59	0.00	0.00	0.00

Average Test Scores



Plans for Class of 2023	% of Students
Two-Year College	17
Four-Year College	27
Employment	27
Vocational Training	2
Technical School/Other	7
Other (Undecided, Gap Year, Mission Work)	20
Total	100