

## Minnesota Connections Academy Hosts Information Session for families to learn about free online school

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Agency: **Wowza**



Grand Rapids area families looking for an alternative to home schooling or a traditional bricks-and-mortar school are invited to attend a free information session to learn more about MTS Minnesota Connections Academy, a free virtual public school program.

The event will be held Tuesday, Aug. 12, from 11a.m.-12:30 p.m., at Sawmill Inn of Grand Rapids, 2301 S. Highway 169 in Grand Rapids. With the addition of twelfth grade for the 2008-'09 school year, the program serves all students across the state, K-12.

During the information session, attendees will speak with faculty and explore the school's customized learning approach, high-quality curriculum and unique technology tools. Enrollment counselors will answer questions and help families complete the enrollment process. Families interested in an Internet school that offers a similar environment to home schooling, but with the support of certified teachers and the accountability of public education, should attend. The event is free and child friendly. Reservations are not required though families may register at [www.ConnectionsAcademy.com](http://www.ConnectionsAcademy.com).

Unlike home school curriculum, Connections Academy students work with state-certified teachers along with their parents or other "learning coaches" to create daily lesson plans that meet their individual needs. The program's standards-aligned curriculum, technology tools, extensive selection of electives and clubs, and community experiences create a personalized alternative to a bricks-and-mortar classroom. The curriculum combines textbooks from leading publishers with cutting-edge, yet easy-to-use, technology resources and hands-on materials. Each year, Connections Academy students eagerly await their back-to-school boxes of learning materials, which includes computers, textbooks, workbooks, CD-ROMs, microscopes and other science equipment, art materials, even jump ropes and other physical education supplies.

MTS Minnesota Connections Academy is designed to meet the needs of students and their families who are looking for an alternative to the conventional classroom — those who need a flexible schedule, learn at a different pace from their peers, need more individualized attention or live in isolated rural settings. Homebound and previously home-schooled students can also thrive in Connections Academy's program. Connections Academy operates its full-time virtual public school program in Minnesota through a partnership with the Minnesota Transitions Charter School.

For more information, call 1-800-382-6010 or visit Connections Academy online.

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Connections Academy is a leading national provider of high quality, highly accountable virtual public schools in thirteen states operated in partnership with charter schools, school districts, and state departments of education. Connections Academy schools deliver top-quality, personalized education for students that combines certified teachers, a proven curriculum, technology tools, and community experiences to create a supportive and successful environment for children who want an individualized approach to education. In Connections Academy's unique Personalized Performance Learning® approach, students use daily lesson plans and curriculum materials provided by Connections Academy. Teachers develop a learning plan for each student, whose progress is tracked through a proprietary, web-based Learning Management System. In 2008-09 Connections Academy will serve students in Arizona, California (Southern and Central), Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Minnesota, Missouri (through the Missouri Virtual Instruction Program), Nevada, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina and Wisconsin. In 2008-09 Connections Academy will offer grades K through 12, though some schools do not offer all grades. For more information, call 800-382-6010 or visit Connections Academy online.

[You can find this press release here](#)