

## Virtual Public School Students Participate in Field Trips

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Agency: **Wowza**



MTS Minnesota Connections Academy, [ConnectionsAcademy.com](http://ConnectionsAcademy.com), a free online school for K-12 students, has planned five field trips during September to kick off the 2008-2009 school year.

During the beginning of the school year, field trips serve as a means for Minnesota Connections Academy students to come together and socialize with other MTS Minnesota Connections Academy students and families. Over the course of the year, field trips serve as an engaging way to support lessons while offering additional opportunities for socialization.

Four of the five field trips in September took place in Park Rapids, Mankato, St. Cloud, and Duluth. On Thursday, September 25, students and families are invited to Memory Lanes in Minneapolis, for the final field trip of September, an afternoon of bowling. More than 70 MTS Minnesota Connections Academy students and families are expected to attend the Minneapolis field trip.

Minnesota Connections Academy, with its headquarters in Minneapolis, Minn. combines state-certified teachers, high-quality curriculum, unique technology tools, an extensive selection of electives and clubs and community experiences to create an individualized alternative to the brick-and-mortar classroom. The curriculum is aligned to meet or exceed Minnesota academic standards. Students also participate in state standardize testing.

Connections Academy is designed to meet the needs of students and their families who are looking for a unique public school option—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 the program. Connections Academy operates its full-time Internet school program in Minnesota through a partnership with Minnesota Transitions Charter School.

Families interested in free online school with some similarities to home schooling, but with the support of state-certified teachers and the accountability of public education are encouraged to learn more by calling 800-382-6010 or visiting [www.ConnectionsAcademy.com](http://www.ConnectionsAcademy.com).

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 experience to create a supportive and successful environment for children who want an individualized approach to education. In Connections Academy's unique Personalized Performance Learning<sup>®</sup> 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 [www.ConnectionsAcademy.com](http://www.ConnectionsAcademy.com).

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