

**Jay Ferguson, PhD**

Head of School

**Lanny Witt**

High School Principal

**Joseph Walker**

Athletic Director

**Kelley Bell**

Director of College Guidance

**November Roberts**

College Guidance Counselor

**Karen Cannon**

Registrar

**Mission**

To assist Christian families in educating, equipping, and encouraging their children to influence the world for Christ.

**Characteristics**

Grace Community School was founded by Grace Community Church in 1973.

Today the school exists as a JrK-12, coeducational, college-preparatory school with selective admissions. The curriculum is rigorous, and high moral standards are encouraged and expected.

Grace is composed of predominantly college-educated families with business and professional backgrounds.

**Student Body**

JrK – 12: 934

High School: 311

Senior Class (2020): 92

Average HS Class Size: 25

**Accreditation & Certification**

AdvancED (SACS); Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI); Council on Educational Standards & Accountability (CESA)

**Affiliations**

Texas Assoc. of Private & Parochial Schools (TAPPS); Texas Private Schools Assoc. (TPSA); National Assoc. of Secondary School Principals (NASSP); Texas Assoc. of College Admissions Counselors (TACAC); North American Coalition for Christian Admissions Professionals (NACCAP); Assoc. for Supervision & Curriculum Development (ASCD)

**Highlights**

**Academics:** A primary goal of Grace is to provide an outstanding academic education, where the courses are demanding, and intellectual rigor is required. Authentic biblical integration is the hallmark of our curriculum as we seek to unify an uncompromised core of knowledge, a thoroughly biblical worldview, the opportunity to discover individual gifts and talents, the practice of moral and social responsibility, and a transcendent purpose. Our Academic Success Center exists to support and implement accommodation plans for students with diagnosed learning differences, as well as come alongside those students who need additional learning support through the reteaching of classroom content and explicit instruction in executive functioning skills.

**Technology:** We strive to enhance student learning through the effective use of digital technology in every class and to equip students to be productive, responsible digital citizens. We currently have a one-to-one iPad program to help equip GCS high school students for a digital world. We also offer an introduction to computer programming course, a course in video production, and opportunities for students to assist with a junior high coding club.

**Fine Arts:** The Grace fine arts department offers choir, band, orchestra, drumline, drama, and visual arts. Regular programs include several plays and concerts each year, an inter-departmental musical every other year, and numerous competitions. Although COVID-19 canceled most of our fine arts competitions in the spring, we still gleaned State Champion Runner Up in the TAPPS Drumline contest, TAPPS Film Narrative State Champion, with 2nd in Narrative and 2nd in Documentary. All of our arts programs have enjoyed great success through the years, including the following honors from 2018-2019: Fifth consecutive TAPPS State Championship for drumline; eighth consecutive TAPPS State Championship for vocal music; TAPPS State Runner-up for orchestra; TAPPS State Runner-up for one act play; third in TAPPS State for band; fourth in TAPPS State for speech and academics; and fifth in TAPPS State for art; and named the TAPPS 5A Fine Arts School of the Year

**Athletics:** Grace athletic teams compete in TAPPS 5A in football, volleyball, cross country, basketball, soccer, swimming, track, tennis, golf, baseball, softball, cheerleading, and drill team. In 25 years of TAPPS competition, Grace has won 27 state championships, been runner-up nine times, and won 100 district championships.

**In the Overall State Competition, which is determined by performance in athletics, fine arts, and academics, GCS has placed in at least the top 6 every year for 21 of the last 22 years and been Overall State Champions three times. This distinction is a fitting illustration of our success and balance in academics and extracurricular programs.**

**Accelerated Courses**

The following courses are taught at an advanced level. In order of increasing level of difficulty, courses may be designated as Honors (H), Pre-AP (PAP), and Advanced Placement (AP®) or Advanced (ADV). Weighting is explained under "Grade Average Computation."

**Humanities**

English 9 H • English 10 H • English 11 H • English 12 H

AP® English Language & Composition • AP® English Literature and Composition

Ancient World History/Geography H • Modern World History/Geography H

AP® US History • AP® Macroeconomics • AP® US Government and Politics

**Mathematics**

Geometry PAP • Algebra 2 PAP • Pre-calculus/Trig PAP

Statistics ADV • AP® Calculus AB

**Science & Technology**

Biology PAP • Chemistry PAP • Physics PAP • AP® Chemistry

AP® Physics C: Mechanics • Anatomy & Physiology H

Cell Biology ADV • Computer Science PAP

**Foreign Language**

Spanish 3 PAP • College Spanish • Spanish 4 AP®

**Fine Arts**

Advanced Art

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## Graduation Requirements

GCS offers two programs of study. The Required program corresponds to the Texas Foundation High School Program with Distinguished Level of Achievement. The PrestigiousScholars program is more rigorous, including a minimum of four AP®/ADV classes and a third year of Foreign Language.

	Required	Distinguished Scholars
Bible	4 credits	4 credits
English	4 credits	4 credits
History	4 credits	4 credits
Mathematics	4 credits	4 credits
Lab Science	4 credits	4 credits
Foreign Language	2 credits	3 credits
Physical Education/Athletics	1 credits	1 credits
Fine Arts	1 credits	1 credits
Speech	½ credits	½ credits
Elective	1 ½ credits	1 ½ credits
	<b>26 Credits</b>	<b>27 Credits</b>

All students are required to earn service hours during the four years of high school through the service-learning model. Students earn hours through student activities, service to the school, church service, local community service, and national/world service.

## Grade Average Computation

Classes are assigned numeric grades on a 100 scales. The cumulative average is derived from the averages of all courses completed at GCS in grades 9-12. Courses transferred from other schools are not included in the cumulative average.

Due to an increased level of difficulty, all courses designated AP® or ADV are weighted 5 points, and courses designated PAP are weighted 3 points. This is reflected in the student's weighted cumulative average and weighted GPA.

Numeric Grade	4.0 Scale	Pre-AP Course	AP®/ADV Course
90-100	4.0	4.3	4.5
80-89	3.0	3.3	3.5
70-79	2.0	2.3	2.5
Below 70	0	0	0

## Class Rank

Grace Community School provides a rigorous college preparatory curriculum for all students and does not report class rank outside of the top ten percent. Students are ranked solely to identify those who fall within the top ten percent of each grade level and to determine valedictorian and salutatorian. Students are ranked based on their weighted cumulative averages for all classes completed at GCS in grades 9-12.

## National Merit History

In 22 years of participation with the National Merit Scholarship Competition, 44 Grace students have been recognized as Commended Scholars, and 12 have been named Finalists.

## ACT Averages (class of 2020)

	Top 10%	Mid 50%	Entire Class
English	29.2	20-29	24.8
Math	27.5	19-26	23.1
Reading	29.8	21-31	25.9
Science	26.3	20-26	23.4
Composite	28.0	20-28	24.1

## SAT Averages (class of 2020)

	Top 10%	Mid 50%	Entire Class
EBRW	703	520-650	580
Math	678	510-650	560

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## Recent College Acceptances

(**Bold** indicates matriculation)

<b>Abilene Christian University</b>	Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
Auburn University	<b>Sam Houston State University</b>
Aurora University	Samford University
<b>Austin Community College</b>	<b>Savannah College of Art and Design</b>
<b>Baylor University</b>	Southeastern Oklahoma State
<b>Bellhaven University</b>	Southeastern University
<b>Belmont University</b>	Southern Baptist Theological Seminary
<b>Blinn College</b>	<b>Southern Methodist University</b>
<b>California Baptist University</b>	<b>Southwestern University</b>
Case Western Reserve University	St. Bonaventure University
Clemson University	<b>Stephen F. Austin State University</b>
City College of New York	Tarleton State University
Colorado Christian University	<b>Texas A&amp;M University</b>
<b>Colorado Mesa University</b>	Texas A&M University, Galveston
Colorado State University	<b>Texas Christian University</b>
Colorado School of Mines	<b>Texas State University</b>
<b>Cornell University</b>	<b>Texas Tech University</b>
Culver-Stockton College	The College of New Jersey
<b>Dallas Baptist University</b>	The George Washington University
DePaul University	The Master's University
East Texas Baptist University	Trinity University
Eastfield College	<b>Tyler Junior College</b>
Elon University	Union College New York
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University	Union University
Emory University	<b>United States Air Force Academy</b>
Georgia Institute of Technology	<b>University of Alabama</b>
Gordon College	<b>University of Arkansas</b>
Grand Canyon University	University of California, Merced
<b>Harding University</b>	<b>University of Central Oklahoma</b>
<b>Hardin-Simmons University</b>	<b>University of Chicago</b>
<b>Hong Kong Polytechnic University</b>	<b>University of Colorado at Boulder</b>
Houston Baptist University	University of Florida
<b>Howard Payne University</b>	<b>University of Houston</b>
<b>John Brown University</b>	University of Kansas
<b>Kansas State University</b>	University of Louisiana at Monroe
<b>Kilgore College</b>	University of Mary Hardin-Baylor
Lamar University	<b>University of Maryland, Baltimore</b>
<b>LeTourneau University</b>	University of Memphis
Liberty University	<b>University of Minnesota, Twin Cities</b>
Lipscomb University	<b>University of Mississippi</b>
Louisiana College	University of Missouri Columbia
<b>Louisiana State University</b>	<b>University of New Mexico</b>
<b>Louisiana Tech University</b>	<b>University of North Texas</b>
Lubbock Christian University	<b>University of Oklahoma</b>
<b>McLennan Community College</b>	University of Oregon
Middle Tennessee State University	University of Pittsburgh
Millsaps College	University of Rochester
<b>Mississippi College</b>	<b>University of Tennessee, Knoxville</b>
<b>Mississippi State University</b>	University of Texas, Arlington
Missouri State University	<b>University of Texas, Austin</b>
Montana State University	University of Texas, Dallas
<b>Northern Oklahoma College</b>	University of Texas, San Antonio
Ohio State University	<b>University of Texas, Tyler</b>
Oklahoma Baptist University	University of the Incarnate Word
Oklahoma City University	University of Toledo
Oklahoma State University	University of Washington, Seattle
<b>Oral Roberts University</b>	<b>Washington University in St. Louis</b>
<b>Ouachita Baptist University</b>	Western Colorado University
Pennsylvania State University	<b>Westmont College</b>
Point Loma Nazarene University	<b>Wheaton College IL</b>
Purdue University	Xavier University of Louisiana
Rice University	<b>Yale University</b>



3025 University Blvd. • Tyler, TX 75701  
903.566.5678 • Fax: 903.566.1156  
[GraceTyler.org](http://GraceTyler.org)