

Jay Ferguson, PhD

Head of School

Lanny Witt

High School Principal

Joseph Walker, EdD

Athletic Director

Kelley Bell

Director of College Guidance

November Roberts

College Guidance Counselor

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: 960

High School: 304

Senior Class (2021): 90

Average HS Class Size: 15

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)



COUNCIL ON EDUCATIONAL
STANDARDS & ACCOUNTABILITY

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, an engineering design course, where computer-aided software is taught, and opportunities for students to assist with middle school STEM.

Fine Arts: The Grace fine arts department offers choir, band, orchestra, drum line, drama, and visual arts, including ceramics and film. Regular programs include several plays and concerts each year, a musical every other year, and numerous competitions. All of our arts programs have enjoyed great success through the years, and in 2020-2021 earned the following honors at the state level: 5th in One-Act Play; 2nd in Field Band; Drum Line State Champion for the sixth time; 4th in Art and Film; 2nd in Band; 2nd in Orchestra; and State Champion in Choir for the ninth time. All of these honors contributed greatly to GCS receiving the honor of the Henderson Cup for the 4th time.

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 29 state championships, been runner-up eleven times, and won over 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 22 of the last 23 years and been Overall State Champions four 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

Foreign Language

Spanish 3 PAP • Spanish 4 AP®

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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 Prestigious Scholars program is more rigorous, including a minimum of four AP® classes and a third year of Foreign Language.

	Required	Prestigious 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 credit	1 credit
Fine Arts	1 credit	1 credit
Speech	½ credit	½ credit
Elective	1 ½ credits	1 ½ credits
	26 credits	27 credits

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 point scale. 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, 45 Grace students have been recognized as Commended Scholars, and 13 have been named Finalists.

ACT Averages (class of 2021)

	Top 10%	Mid 50%	Entire Class
English	33.0	21-29	25.3
Math	29.8	18-26	22.8
Reading	33.9	22-31	26.4
Science	29.1	20-26	23.4
Composite	31.4	20-27	24.2

SAT Averages (class of 2021)

	Top 10%	Mid 50%	Entire Class
EBRW	707	520-660	588
Math	706	490-620	558

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College Acceptances

(Bold indicates matriculation)

Abilene Christian University
Auburn University
 Aurora University
Austin Community College
Baylor University
Bellhaven University
Belmont University
Blinn College
Brown University
California Baptist University
 Case Western Reserve University
 Clemson University
 City College of New York
 Colorado Christian University
Colorado Mesa University
 Colorado State University
 Colorado School of Mines
Cornell University
Dallas Baptist University
 DePaul University
East Texas Baptist University
 Eastfield College
 Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
 Emory University
 Georgia Institute of Technology
 Gordon College
 Grand Canyon University
Harding University
Hardin-Simmons University
Henderson State University
Hong Kong Polytechnic University
 Houston Baptist University
Howard Payne University
John Brown University
Kansas State University
Kilgore College
 Lamar University
LeTourneau University
 Liberty University
 Lipscomb University
Louisiana State University
Louisiana Tech University
 Lubbock Christian University
McLennan Community College
 Middle Tennessee State University
 Millsaps College
Mississippi College
Mississippi State University
 Missouri State University
 Montana State University
Northern Oklahoma College
 Ohio State University
 Oklahoma Baptist University
 Oklahoma City University
 Oklahoma State University
Oklahoma Wesleyan University
Oral Roberts University
Ouachita Baptist University
 Pennsylvania State University
 Point Loma Nazarene University
 Purdue University
 Rice University
 Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
Sam Houston State University

Samford University
Savannah College of Art and Design
 Southeastern Oklahoma State
 Southeastern University
 Southern Baptist Theological Seminary
Southern Methodist University
Southwestern University
 St. Bonaventure University
Stephen F. Austin State University
 Tarleton State University
Texas A&M University
 Texas A&M University, Galveston
Texas Christian University
Texas State University
Texas Tech University
 The College of New Jersey
 The George Washington University
 The Master's University
 Trinity University
Tyler Junior College
 Union College New York
 Union University
United States Air Force Academy
University of Alabama
University of Arkansas
 University of California, Merced
University of Central Oklahoma
University of Chicago
University of Colorado at Boulder
University of Dallas
 University of Florida
University of Houston
 University of Kansas
 University of Louisiana at Monroe
 University of Mary Hardin-Baylor
University of Maryland, Baltimore
 University of Memphis
University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
University of Mississippi
 University of Missouri Columbia
University of New Mexico
University of North Texas
University of Oklahoma
 University of Oregon
 University of Pittsburgh
 University of Rochester
University of Tennessee, Knoxville
 University of Texas, Arlington
University of Texas, Austin
University of Texas, Dallas
 University of Texas, San Antonio
University of Texas, Tyler
 University of the Incarnate Word
 University of Toledo
 University of Washington, Seattle
Vanderbilt University
Vanguard University
Washington University in St. Louis
 Western Colorado University
Westmont College
Wheaton College IL
 Xavier University of Louisiana
Yale University



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