

## Jay Ferguson, PhD

Head of School

## Lanny Witt

High School Principal

## Tandy Hicks

High School Assistant Principal

## Eddie Francis

Athletic Director

## Kelley Bell

Director of Counseling

## Diane Carnes

Director of College and Career

### 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: 1063

High School: 310

Senior Class (2024): 78

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.

**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

**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 27 years of TAPPS competition, Grace has won 29 state championships, been runner-up thirteen 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 23 of the last 24 years and been Overall State Champions five 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), Advanced Placement (AP®), Advanced (ADV) or Dual Credit (DC). Weighting is explained under "Grade Average Computation."

### Humanities

AP® English Language & Composition • AP® English Literature and Composition  
DC US History • DC English 12 • AP® US Government and Politics

### Mathematics

Geometry H • Algebra 2 H • Pre-calculus/Trig H/DC • Statistics ADV/DC • AP® Calculus AB

### Science & Technology

Biology H • Chemistry H • Physics H • AP® Chemistry • AP® Physics C: Mechanics  
DC Cell Biology ADV

### Foreign Language

Spanish 3 H • Spanish 4 H

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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	1½ credits	1½ 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 and select DC classes are weighted 5 points, and courses designated H are weighted 3 points. This is reflected in the student's weighted cumulative average and weighted GPA.

Numeric Grade	4.0 Scale	Honors Course	AP/ADV/DC 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 24 years of participation with the National Merit Scholarship Competition, 48 Grace students have been recognized as Commended Scholars, and 13 have been named Finalists.

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## College Acceptances

(**Bold** indicates matriculation)

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

**GRACE**  
COMMUNITY SCHOOL

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