GRACE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

PROFILE 2026-2027

School Code: 447-133

Jay Ferguson, PhD
Head of School
Joshua Webb
Associate Head of School
Lanny Witt
High School Principal
Wes Johnston
High School Assistant Principal
Kelley Bell
Director of Counseling
AnaLisa Rogers
College and Career 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: 1047
High School: 299
Senior Class (2027): 80
Average HS Class Size: 15

ACCREDITATION & CERTIFICATION
Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI); Cognia; 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)

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 to 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 device 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. 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 2025-2026 earned the following honors at the state level: Drum Line State Champion for the eleventh time; 4th in Orchestra; and State Champion in Choir for the fourteenth time. GCS has also been the top TAPPS 5A Fine Arts program overall in five of the last eight years.

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 29 years of TAPPS competition, Grace has won 31 state championships, been runner-up fifteen times, and won 108 district championships.

In the Overall State Competition, which is determined by performance in academics, athletics, and fine arts, GCS has placed in at least the top 6 every year for 24 of the last 25 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

In order of increasing level of difficulty, advanced level 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
English DC • US History DC • AP® US Government and Politics
AP® World History: Modern • AP® Human Geography

Mathematics
Geometry H • Algebra 2 H • Pre-Calculus DC • ADV Statistics DC • AP® Calculus AB

Science & Technology
Biology H • Chemistry H • Physics H • AP® Chemistry • AP® Physics C: Mechanics
Anatomy & Physiology DC • Biology ADV DC • AP® Computer Science A

Foreign Language
Spanish 3 H • Spanish 4 H

Electives
Speech Communications DC • Introduction to Nursing DC
Introduction to Psychology DC • Medical Terminology DC

AP® and Advanced Placement® are registered trademarks of the College Board. Used with permission.

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	1/2 credit	1/2 credit
Elective	1 1/2 credits	1 1/2 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 DC courses 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 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 25 years of participation with the National Merit Scholarship Competition, 51 Grace students have been recognized as Commended Scholars, and 13 have been named Finalists.

AP® and Advanced Placement® are registered trademarks of the College Board. Used with permission.

College Acceptances

(**Bold** indicates matriculation)

Abilene Christian University
Auburn University
Aurora University
Austin Community College
Baylor University
Belhaven 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
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
Midwestern 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 the Incarnate Word
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 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

GRACE
COMMUNITY SCHOOL

3025 UNIVERSITY BLVD. | TYLER, TX 75701
903.566.5678 | GRACETYLER.ORG