



Tennessee Connections Academy 9-12

School District: Johnson County

School Year: 2023-2024

Virtual School Monitoring Report

School District’s Overall Designation and Findings

Each year, school districts across Tennessee monitor the instructional, financial, and operational practices within their virtual schools using a state-defined series of common practices and requirements. This report reflects the school district’s designation of the virtual school’s academic, operational, and financial viability.

The school district determined that the virtual school is:



During the annual monitoring process, the school district identified areas of strength and areas that need strengthened within the virtual school. The school district has summarized these monitoring findings below.

School’s Strengths:

Tennessee Connections Academy (TNCA) 9-12 has developed attendance policies that comply with the compulsory attendance requirements and monitors daily attendance for all enrolled students. TNCA has worked to develop policies and procedures that fully follow the Johnson County Board of Education’s Attendance Policy. They have also implemented a strong truancy intervention plan following attendance policy guidelines. TNCA 9-12 was very successful in dropping their Chronic Absenteeism rate from 18.9% to 9.3% for the 2022-2023 school year. TNCA has supports in place that provides students with the needed technology for their courses. TNCA will aid those families who do not have access to the needed items, such as laptops, for their coursework. TNCA also provides an internet subsidy for parents.

School’s Notable Areas for Improvement:

Tennessee Connections Academy staff needs to develop Special Education Individualized Education Plans (IEP) that are more closely aligned to state expectations. TNCA will implement a plan to work with teachers to check IEP’s adverse impact statements. The staff needs to be provided opportunities to identify their weaknesses in teaching special education students and in the implementation process for the student IEP’s during instruction. TNCA will provide support to teachers to enhance their teaching skills and IEP implementation in the virtual setting. TNCA needs to develop an improved process for making sure that all documents are signed and dated correctly during their self-monitoring process. TNCA will send out certified mail to parents to physically sign the IEP if they do not sign digitally with a return envelope to return the signed form.

School's State Report Card

Families and community members deserve accessible, understandable information about Tennessee schools. Currently, the State Report Card includes a dashboard of detailed, easy-to-understand information about the key indicators families can use to understand school and district performance, including achievement, growth, attendance, English learners' proficiency in English, graduation rate, and postsecondary readiness of students. Information about schools and districts, including student enrollment, contact information, staff information, school and district expenditures and funding, and longitudinal data on student performance over the past four years. State-level data is also provided as a reference to understand how schools and districts are performing in comparison with others across the state.

School's Tennessee State Report Card

<https://tdepublicschools.ondemand.sas.com/school/004600042>

School's Improvement Plan

Each year, school and district leaders complete a school improvement plan (SIP). Each public virtual school has created a SIP that outlines goals and strategies used to improve student academic success. The link below allows families to review the SIP for the virtual school.

School's Annual Improvement Plan

<https://edplan.tn.gov/public/plans/13340/>

Operational Information

School Name:	Tennessee Connections Academy	Years In Operation:	4
Total Current Enrollment:	1487	Grades Served:	9-12
Date that the school begins accepting enrollment applications:	3/1/23 Fall Semester 23-24	Date that the school stops accepting enrollment applications:	9/29/23 Fall Semester 23-24
	10/1/23 Spring Semester 23-24		1/31/24 Spring Semester 23-24

School's Website	https://www.connectionsacademy.com/tennessee-online-school/
-------------------------	---

Enrollment Types Accepted:
Choose all that apply In-district Out-of-district State-wide
See appendix for definitions of terms

Primary Instructional Model by Grade:
Choose all that apply
See appendix for definitions of terms

K	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th
<input type="checkbox"/> Asynchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Synchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Bisynchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Hybrid	<input type="checkbox"/> Asynchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Synchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Bisynchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Hybrid	<input type="checkbox"/> Asynchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Synchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Bisynchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Hybrid	<input type="checkbox"/> Asynchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Synchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Bisynchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Hybrid	<input type="checkbox"/> Asynchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Synchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Bisynchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Hybrid	<input type="checkbox"/> Asynchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Synchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Bisynchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Hybrid

6 th	7 th	8 th	9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th
<input type="checkbox"/> Asynchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Synchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Bisynchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Hybrid	<input type="checkbox"/> Asynchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Synchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Bisynchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Hybrid	<input type="checkbox"/> Asynchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Synchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Bisynchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Hybrid	<input type="checkbox"/> Asynchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Synchronous <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bisynchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Hybrid	<input type="checkbox"/> Asynchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Synchronous <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bisynchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Hybrid	<input type="checkbox"/> Asynchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Synchronous <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bisynchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Hybrid	<input type="checkbox"/> Asynchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Synchronous <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bisynchronous <input type="checkbox"/> Hybrid

Appendix: Definitions of Terms

Enrollment Types	Explanation
In-district Enrollment	Enrollment option for students who reside within the zone of residency of the school district that established the virtual school.
Out-of-district Enrollment	Enrollment option for students who reside within a contiguous county, municipality, or city outside the zone of residency of the school district establishing the virtual school.
State-wide Enrollment	Enrollment option for students who reside within Tennessee and outside the zone of residency of the school district that established the virtual school.

Instructional Model	Explanation
Asynchronous Virtual Instruction	An instructional model that provides students access to on-demand instruction that is fully virtual/online. This model allows students to access instructional materials and progress at their own pace and does not require students to attend regularly scheduled (daily/every other day) virtual classes with a teacher.
Bisynchronous Virtual Instruction	An instructional model that utilizes both asynchronous and synchronous virtual instruction.
Hybrid Virtual Instruction	An instructional model that provides students access to virtual instruction and requires students to periodically attend class in-person within a brick-and-mortar location.
Synchronous Virtual Instruction	An instructional model that provides scheduled, teacher supervised instruction that is fully virtual/online. This model of instruction does require students to attend regularly scheduled (daily/every other day) virtual classes with a teacher.