

GRADE 9-12
REGISTRATION PACKET
2025-2026

Please contact Kellene Ditler at (209) 928-4228 ext. 6232
or email kditler@summbears.net to schedule a
registration interview

Summerville Union High School District Showcase

February 19, 2025 5:30 to 7:00 PM on the Summerville High Campus

Registration Checklist

- Two most recent report cards/progress reports
- Course selections form
- Registration forms
- Academic agreement form
- Media release form
- Interview with Grade Level Coordinator (GLC)

WELCOME to the 2025-26 School Year!

Connections Visual and Performing Arts Academy is a full accredited charter school for students in grades 7-12 focusing on visual and performing arts, integrated with Summerville High School. Connections has been recognized by the US News and World Report as a top high school in the United States in 2013, 2014, and 2016.

Connections VPAA opened in 2002 and now has 157 students. Students have the opportunity to work with a choir director, choreographer, and accompanists in the vocal choir program. In theatrical productions, students are coached by directors, vocal directions, and choreographers. Costume and set designers assist in creating professional-quality productions. Students in the ballet/dance program are taught by a professional dance instructor, and both the dance and ballet classes perform in a recital at the end of the year. The band members are in the Orange Crush and Zero Hibernation Jazz Band. Each year, film and art students screen their work at the Academy Art and Film Festival, and several student films have been screened at independent film festivals.

There are no attendance boundaries for Connections VPAA, so any student who lives in Tuolumne, Calaveras, Mariposa, or Stanislaus County is eligible to attend. Students enrolled in Connections must maintain grades of C's or better in their courses.

Connections VPAA students are able to enroll in all academic, athletic, and extracurricular programs available at Summerville High School. The focus on arts programs allows for a large variety of elective classes in their arts for students in both school programs, including piano, guitar, art, photography, drama, film, choir, band, and dance.

Graduates from Connections VPAA have attended: The American Musical and Dramatic Academy, Occidental College, Berklee College of Music, Stanford, Notre Dame, UC Berkeley, UC Davis, UC Irvine, UCLA, UC Santa Cruz, UC San Diego, USC, UOP, University of Portland, Western Washington University, and many California State Universities. Several graduates have traveled as cast members for the Young Americans.

All students enroll in eight classes. Class periods are 90 minutes long with four classes meeting on A days and 4 classes meeting on alternate B days. School begins at 8:00 and ends at 3:05 on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. School ends at 2:15 on Wednesdays.

If you are interested in enrolling your son or daughter in the Connections VPAA program, please contact Mrs. Kellene Ditler at (209) 928-4228 ext. 6232 to set up an apportionment.

<https://www.summbears.net/schools/connections-visual-performing-arts-academy/>

Welcome home Summerville Union High School District students

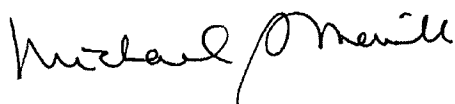
My name is Mike Merrill, and it is my honor to serve as your Superintendent. It is also my pleasure to welcome our newest Freshman class, forever known as the *Class of 2029*. You are entering high school at a great time. We are truly excited to share in your high school opportunities. Whether you are a returning student or a student new to our school, your pathway to success is lined with several choices that will help you to attain success. One of those choices is setting goals that reflect the things you want to attain now and in the future, and holding yourself to the highest standard to reach those goals. Another choice is centering yourself with a positive team that will help you to reach these goals. Your team should consist of equal parts parent/guardian support, school staff support, friends, and most importantly, you. Finally, no one will be totally successful without effectively communicating one's needs, desires, and wants. As a team, we will be successful if we continue to communicate in a way that allows each of us to help each other.

As you evaluate your future plans, I suggest that you get involved in Summerville High School activities, and create long-lasting friendships, keeping the following in mind:

- Don't limit your potential by simply accepting the easy way. Challenge yourself academically, artistically, athletically.
- Create a four-year academic plan that will not only challenge you to think, but allow you to access any career path at the end of your high school years, be it college, work, military, etc. Your goals and aspirations will change over time, so keep doors open for yourself.
- Count on people to be there to support you with making decisions. We have an excellent staff of professionals to assist students socially, emotionally, and academically.
- Involve your parents/guardians in your plans...count on them to be there not only as a resource, but also as an inspiration to do your best and be your best.
- Parents please continue to take an active part in your student's schooling. We need your voice to be heard, and we are here to support each other as we raise our students together.

Summerville High School District has a mission to equip students with the necessary skills to accomplish their goals. The end-result is not simply graduation, but preparation for life beyond. As Superintendent of Summerville Union High School District, please count on me as one of your trusted resources. As a team made up of educators, families and community resources, our students will succeed.

It is my distinct pleasure to welcome you to Summerville Union High School District.
Go Bears!



Michael S. Merrill
Summerville Union High School District Superintendent



Connections VPAA

Graduation Requirements

English	Eight consecutive semesters of English	40
Social Studies	Two semesters of World History; two semesters of U.S. History; one semester of U.S. Government; one semester of Econ/Gov	30
Mathematics	Six semesters selected from mathematics course offerings are required of all students. All students must complete one year of Algebra 1	30
Science	Four semesters of science are required: one year of Earth/Physical Science, one year Biology or Life Science	20
Physical Education	Students must complete 4 semesters of physical education.	20
Fine arts/ Foreign Language/ CTE	Students must pass one year of a foreign language. Art, music, film or drama. Students may substitute one year of CTE courses for graduation requirements.	10
Non- Departmental	One semester of Health and one semester of Keyboarding/Careers during the freshman year and two semesters of Senior Seminar in the senior year.	20
Other Courses	As indicated by the major course of study and student's life plan.	120

Total credits required for graduation:

Class of 2025	280
Class of 2026	260
Class of 2027 and beyond	250

- a. Students transferring into the District from another high school shall be awarded credits toward graduation based on courses completed elsewhere without penalty resulting from a variation of local requirements.
- b. Students earning a comprehensive diploma must successfully complete a senior project.

College Entrance Requirements

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA/ CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY SUBJECT REQUIREMENTS

A-G Coursework Subject Requirements

- | | |
|---|--|
| A. History/Social Science | 2 years (1 year of US History or 1 semester of US History and 1 semester of civics or Government AND 1 year of social science) |
| B. English | 4 years (Composition, Literature, etc.) |
| C. Mathematics | 3 years, Algebra 1 and Algebra 2 and 1 year of Geometry; OR Math I, Math II, Math III; 4 years recommended |
| D. Laboratory Science | 2 years, one of Biology and one of Chemistry or Physics. 3 years recommended |
| E. Foreign Language | 2 years of same language required; 3 years recommended |
| F. Visual or Performing Arts | 1 year |
| G. College Preparatory Electives | 1 year coursework in addition to minimum requirements in subjects listed above |

UC Admission Information: www.universityofcalifornia.edu/admissions

Students interested in applying to a UC campus need to complete the 15 A-G requirements, with at least 11 finished prior to the beginning of their senior year, with no grade lower than a C, and at least a 3.0 GPA in these courses. Students need to complete the SAT test with essay or the ACT with essay no later than December of their senior year. The SAT subject tests are not required for admission but certain majors on some campuses recommend them. Students may apply between November 1 and November 30 of their senior year.

CSU Admission Information: www.calstate.edu

Students interested in applying to a CSU campus need to complete the A-G requirements with no grade lower than a C. Students need to complete the SAT or ACT no later than December of their senior year. Some campuses, such as Cal Poly, recommend students take the SAT or ACT no later than November of their senior year. Students may apply between October 1 and November 30 of their senior year.

NCAA Information

Students who may compete in athletics at the university level in a Division I or Division II institution must register with the NCAA Eligibility Center. There is no deadline to register, but it is recommended by the NCAA that interested students register during their junior year.

Students must complete a certain number of core courses with a minimum GPA, and earn a minimum score on the SAT or ACT. For more information, go to www.web1.ncaa.org.

For a complete list of Courses available for grades 9-12, go to our website: www.summbears.net and click on "course handbook."

Connections Visual and Performing Arts Academy Academic Agreement

It is the philosophy of Connections Visual and Performing Arts Academy to provide a balance, rich, and strong artistic and academic environment. Students who attend the academy must show an interest in being involved in our arts curriculum, and understand the parameters as set forth in this agreement between the school and the student with his or her parents.

1. Students must maintain grades of "C" or above in all of their coursework.
2. Students must maintain at least 90% attendance.
3. Students will be placed on academic probation should one or more of their grades fall below a C for the semester or their attendance drop below 90%. They will have one semester to show improvement or risk being removed from the Academy.
4. If it becomes clear that the student is not completing assignments or not demonstrating effort in class, they may also be removed. This will not take place until after a parent conference is held.
5. Students must maintain good behavior and follow the district's discipline guidelines. If a student at the Academy is determined to have violated a policy that results in suspension or have repeated discipline consequences, they may be removed from the Academy.
6. Cell phone use – Cell phones are prohibited during class time.
7. Students will participate in all standardized tests (Smarter Balanced, etc.)
8. Parents are encouraged to follow their child's progress by using the District's "Powerschool" program linked to our school website. They are also encouraged to become an active participant in their child's education by communicating with teachers and the principal when needed.
9. Parents are also encouraged to attend Connections Advisory Board meetings to give input on activities and curriculum related to the program and/or participate in C.A.S.T., the Creative Arts Support Team.

PLEASE ATTACH TWO OF YOUR STUDENT'S MOST RECENT REPORT CARDS/PROGRESS REPORTS FROM THIS SCHOOL YEAR TO THE REGISTRATION FORM.

I have read and agree to the guidelines listed above:

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____

Connections Visual and Performing Arts Academy Media Release Form

I, the parent or guardian of: _____, give permission for my child's image, likeness, voice and/or name to be printed in the media. Examples of this may include:

- Newspaper photos or articles
- Radio or television advertisements or programs
- The school website
- Newspaper or yearbook
- Other forms of printed or digital media

I also understand that there will be no financial compensation to my child for these media publications unless specifically noted.

Permission for this release will be in effect for while my child continues to be enrolled at Connections Visual and Performing Arts Academy.

By signing below, I am also affirming that I have the legal right to sign this release.

Parent Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____

Select One:

Summerville

Connections/VPAA

Course Selection

9

2025-2026

Freshman

Last Name:	First Name:
Post Graduation Plans: Check all that may apply	
<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Year College <input type="checkbox"/> Community College <input type="checkbox"/> Tech/Trade School <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Other	

Required Courses Circle one in each subject	<u>English</u> English 9 (CP) English 9 Honors (CP)*+ A placement test will be given to determine placement. <u>Science</u> Physical/Earth (CP) Physical/Earth Honors (CP)+	<u>Mathematics</u> Algebra I (CP) Geometry (CP) A placement test will be given to determine placement.	<u>Physical Education</u> Core PE Dance^ <u>Non-Departmental</u> Health/Freshman Seminar
Elective Courses (CP) Meets College Prep in this subject * By staff approval only + Honors/Extra Grade Point ^ Connections Only Required Courses + Elective Courses = 8 periods	<u>Foreign Language</u> Spanish 1 (CP) Spanish 2 (CP)* <u>Non Departmental</u> ASB (0 Per.)(CP) Speech, Debate, Court Law (CP)	<u>Automotive Service & Manufacturing Pathway</u> Mechanics <u>Agriculture Pathway</u> Intro to Ag <u>Biomedical Pathways</u> Principles of Biomed (CP)+ <u>Information Programing Pathway</u> Intro to Robotics (CP) Intro to Programing(CP)	<u>Visual Arts</u> Art 1 (CP) Filmmaking 1 (CP) Photography 1 (CP) <u>Drama</u> Drama (CP) Technical Theater <u>Vocal Music</u> Musical Theater* Adv. Jazz Choir/Jazz@8* <u>Instrumental Music</u> Band 1 (CP) Adv. Band/Orange Crush(CP) Beginning Piano(CP) Beginning Guitar(CP)

<p style="text-align: center;">Alternative Electives <i>Required!</i></p> <p>Please make two alternative elective choices:</p> <p>#1 _____</p> <p>#2 _____</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Athletics</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Circle which season(s) you will be involved in a sport:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> FALL <input type="checkbox"/> WINTER <input type="checkbox"/> SPRING </p>
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**Course offerings are subject to change based on student interest and staff availability.*

Date _____ Entry Date _____

SUMMERVILLE HIGH SCHOOL REGISTRATION FORM 2025-2026

FROM: SUHS ISP LBHS MHS SFHS CSHS CONNECTIONS OTHER (Circle One) DOES STUDENT HAVE AN IEP OR 504?

TO: SUHS ISP LBHS MHS SFHS CSHS CONNECTIONS OTHER (Circle One) IEP 504 (Please Circle One)

STUDENT'S LAST NAME	STUDENT'S FIRST NAME	MIDDLE NAME	OTHER LAST NAMES USED	GRADE	GENDER MALE FEMALE	DATE OF BIRTH	PLACE OF BIRTH (CITY/ST)
STUDENT'S MAILING ADDRESS		CITY/STATE	ZIP	STUDENT'S HOME PHONE			
RESIDENCE ADDRESS, IF DIFFERENT FROM MAILING		CITY/STATE	ZIP				
FATHER'S NAME LAST/FIRST	STUDENT LIVES WITH FATHER? YES NO	HOME PHONE	CELL#	EMAIL ADDRESS	DOES FATHER RECEIVES SCHOOL INFO? YES NO		
IS MAILING ADDRESS SAME AS STUDENT'S YES NO (IF NO, PLEASE LIST BELOW)							
MOTHER'S NAME LAST/FIRST	STUDENT LIVES WITH MOTHER? YES NO	HOME PHONE	CELL#	EMAIL ADDRESS	DOES MOTHER RECEIVES SCHOOL INFO? YES NO		
IS MAILING ADDRESS SAME AS STUDENT'S YES NO (IF NO, PLEASE LIST BELOW)							
STUDENT'S STEPFATHER/GUARDIAN	MAILING ADDRESS	HOME PHONE	WORK PHONE/CELL#	EMAIL ADDRESS	RECEIVES COPY OF SCHOOL INFO? YES NO		
STUDENT'S STEPMOTHER/GUARDIAN	MAILING ADDRESS	HOME PHONE	WORK PHONE/CELL#	EMAIL ADDRESS	RECEIVES COPY OF SCHOOL INFO? YES NO		
HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATION-FATHER		NOT A HS GRAD	HS GRAD	SOME COLLEGE	COLLEGE GRADUATE	GRADUATE SCHOOL/POST GRADUATE	(Please Circle One)
HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATION-MOTHER		NOT A HS GRAD	HS GRAD	SOME COLLEGE	COLLEGE GRADUATE	GRADUATE SCHOOL/POST GRADUATE	(Please Circle One)
OTHER CHILDREN OF FAMILY	NAME	DOB	RELATIONSHIP TO STUDENT	LIVES AT HOME:	SCHOOL ATTENDING		
				YES NO			
				YES NO			
				YES NO			

ETHNIC LIST - PLEASE NOTE - ONE OF THE FOLLOWING MUST BE MARKED- PLEASE CIRCLE ONE ONLY!

HISPANIC OR LATINO PLEASE CIRCLE BELOW AMERICAN INDIAN/ALASKAN NATIVE BLACK (NOT OF HISPANIC ORIGIN) HOME LANGUAGE SURVEY - ANSWER ALL THREE	NOT HISPANIC OR LATINO (PLEASE CIRCLE ONE) FILIPINO WHITE (NOT OF HISPANIC ORIGIN) STUDENT FIRST BEGAN TO SPEAK WHICH LANGUAGE: CHINESE ASIAN INDIAN CAMBODIAN JAPANESE HONGKONG ASIAN HINDI VIETNAMESE OTHER ASIAN KOREAN LAOTIAN HONGKONG AT HOME, STUDENT MOST FREQUENTLY SPEAKS:	PACIFIC ISLANDER - PLEASE CIRCLE BELOW HAWAIIAN GUAMANIAN TAHIITIAN OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDER SAMOAN LANGUAGE YOU SPEAK TO STUDENT:
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EMERGENCY CONTACT: _____ / _____ / _____
 NAME (LOCAL CONTACT) PHONE NUMBER RELATIONSHIP TO STUDENT

CSIS #		
ARE YOU IN TRANSITION, LIVING IN A SHELTER, OR OTHER NONPERMANENT RESIDENCE?	YES	NO
ARE EITHER PARENT AN ACTIVE ARMED FORCES MEMBER?	YES	NO
ARE THERE ANY EXISTING COURT ORDERS INVOLVING STUDENT?	YES	NO
DID STUDENT PREVIOUSLY ATTEND SUMMERVILLE HIGH?	YES	NO
IS THERE A CURRENT EXPULSION ORDER ON STUDENT?	YES	NO
DOES STUDENT HAVE A CURRENT IEP OR 504? (PLEASE CIRCLE WHICH SERVICE PLAN)	YES	NO
IF YES, YOU MUST ATTACH A COPY OF THE MOST RECENT IEP/504		
NAME AND ADDRESS OF LAST SCHOOL ATTENDED		
_____ _____ _____		