

Academy of Careers & Technologies Charter High School

6812 Bandera Rd, Suite 102, San Antonio, Texas 78238 210-226-7568 www.actchs.org



Rickey Harrell, Principal

Dr. Tonja D. Nelson, Superintendent

ADMINISTRATION

Rickey Harrell Principal
Akenese Iosefo School Administrator
Gail McCullum Support Services Director

SUPPORT STAFF

Linda Green Truant Officer
Tina Saunders Counselor
Jamie Maldonado Counselor
Gloria Stuart Registrar
Leslie Marie Rivera Administrative Secretary
La Condia Bailey Administrative Support
Christopher Sullivan IT Technician
Charles Woods Maintenance Supervisor
Adrian Guerra Custodian
Felice Garza Food Service Supervisor

TEACHERS

Kimberly Kreider	Lead Teacher/Science
James Courtney	Language Arts/Comm. Apps
Ester Flores	Language Arts
James Ollerton	Mathematics
Olga Vargas	Mathematics
Lawrence McNamee	Social Studies
Justin Davenport	Social Studies
Tiffany Smith	Science/ Health Sciences
Miguel Tellez	Foreign Languages/ESL
Phil Jackson	Business/Tech Coordinator
Nehemias Moreno	Marketing /Career Exploration
Leonard Minnala	Info Technology Applications
Myriam Jimenez	Art/Graphic Communications
Esmeralda Vasquez	Special Education

COMMUNITY

The Academy of Careers and Technologies is located in the heart of Leon Valley. We believe all students have an unlimited potential to learn. Our mission is to ignite that potential while providing an active, positive environment through flexible and varied curricula.

WEIGHTED CLASSES

Advanced placement courses are weighted by adding eight points to the semester grades. Weighted grades are used in computing grade average and rank in class, but numerical grades on the transcripts do not show the added points. The code "AP" is used as part of the course title to designate weighted courses. "D" denotes courses taken in the dual credit program.

CURRICULUM

ACT is accredited by the Texas Education Agency and adheres to its policies regarding the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) taught in each class. ACT's curriculum offers technology-based, personalized learning environments so that education is engaging, relevant, and reflects 21st century skills.

GRADING SCALE

Students are assessed in a variety of ways ranging from simple observation to pencil-paper tests, to cooperative projects, to the use of rubrics to direct deeper learning. The grading scale for all course work completed by students is as follows:

A= 100-90
B= 80-90
C= 75-79
D= 70-74
F= 69 or below

TEXAS RECOMMENDED HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION PROGRAM

Program (RHSP) Subject	Credit
English	4
Mathematics	3 / 4 for juniors and below
Science	3 / 4 for juniors and below
World Geography	1
World History	1
U.S. History	1
Government	½
Economics	½
International Language (same language in a sequence)	2
Physical Education or Approved Substitute	1 ½
Fine Arts	1
Technology	1
Speech	½
Elective**	4
Total	24/26 for current juniors and below

All students must pass the comprehensive Exit level examinations as required by the state to be eligible for high school graduation.

College and Career Readiness



Academy of Careers and Technologies is committed to education and our goal is to graduate all students ready for college. To help students achieve their higher education goals, our counselors work with community and business partners, along with colleges and universities. These partnerships offer students programs and resources to help them better prepare for college or a career. The assistance they provide ranges from tutoring to help with the college application process. Programs include:

TALENTED AND GIFTED	ADVANCED PLACEMENT	CAREER & TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION	SAT/ACT INITIATIVE	DUAL CREDIT	CREDIT BY EXAMINATION
<p>The Talented and Gifted program involves adapting the standard curriculum to include more complex and challenging classes. The program takes a student-centered approach to learning; emphasizes creative and productive thinking; promotes discovery learning, problem solving and research; and nurtures students to develop their abilities. The program is open to students who meet the basic criteria and successfully complete the selection process.</p>	<p>The Advanced Placement program, sponsored by the College Board, is available at Academy of Career and Technology. It allows students to eventually earn college credit at more than 3,000 colleges and universities by taking more rigorous college preparation courses. Every May, students have the opportunity to pass tests, which can qualify them for college credit. The advantage of receiving these credits is that students will not have to take review classes in college in subjects for which they have passed the AP test. The AP program offers monetary assistance to students to take the test</p>	<p>In addition to regular academic training, Career and Technology Education prepare participating students to have successful careers in the labor force. The goal is that each student will master the basic knowledge and skill to gain entry-level employment in a high skill, high-wage job or continue their education in college. ACT offers courses in agriculture science and technology, business education, career orientation, family and consumer sciences, health science technology, marketing education, technology education, and trade and industrial education.</p>	<p>Taking the SAT or ACT is one of the first steps in the college application process, and preparing students to be successful in these exams is a priority for the district. Goals have been set to increase the number of students who take and pass these tests in order to go to the college or university of their choice. The district's SAT initiative provides students with more opportunities to prepare to take the test and to increase their knowledge in the area of math, critical reading, and writing</p>	<p>Dual Credit programs allow high school juniors and seniors the opportunity to earn up to 12 units of college credit per year. Offered through the University of Texas at Arlington and Lamar University, the dual credit program makes college accessible and affordable for high school students by providing quality on-line courses that are aligned with the TEKS. The cost of each course is \$349.00</p>	<p>Credit-by-examination tests (CBEs) all high school students the opportunity to earn credit for a specific subject by successfully passing an assessment exam. Offered through Texas Tech University, CBE's are generic TEKS exams and measures a student's mastery of the subject material. The cost of each CBE is \$30.00</p>



Grades	9-12	Enrichment	Opportunities	
	Physical Education: Foundations of Personal Fitness	Music History	Dance	Art
What your child will learn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learn various approaches to lifetime personal fitness as well as components of health-related fitness Learn the importance of teamwork as it applies to sports Learn about the process of becoming fit, the concept of wellness, and methods of obtaining optimum levels of health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Posture Music literacy Vocal/ instrumental techniques Diverse cultures through singing, playing musical instruments, moving, and listening 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Story telling/ movement Many styles of dance Pantomime Improvisation Vocal articulation and projection Basic stage language Memorization 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communicate his or her thoughts through art and reading about art Continue to build vocabulary in order to better express ideas Work with a wide variety of art tools and media Critique a variety of art forms
What your child will do	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in a personal fitness program that includes activities designed to improve cardiovascular fitness Participate in various team sports Describe components of exercises 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students are encouraged to join the band or choir. Some campuses offer orchestra-also an excellent option. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students are encouraged to elect music history or dance class 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create original artworks to “build” a portfolio or body of work Identify the arts of a wide variety of countries, cultures, and ethnic groups Critique art works Identify an area of interest: painting, drawing, sculpture, ceramics, jewelry construction, computer art, or photography Visit local art museums
What you will see (products)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Show evidence of students incorporating physical activity into their lifestyle through developing and maintaining health-related fitness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Small group and large group performances Practice Compositions Increased self-confidence Skills to participate in ensemble 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Performances Increased self-confidence Interpersonal skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portfolio or body of work composed of a series of art works Word walls Writing samples related to art
How you can help	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage participation and support involvement Contact the physical education instructor at your local campus Visit local community centers Encourage your student to eat a balanced diet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage your child to practice Monitor your child’s grades in all core classes Attend concerts Chaperone events volunteer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage your child to practice Monitor your child’s grades in all core classes Attend concerts Chaperone events volunteer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Show interest in artwork and be positive Use encouragement and praise Attend students art exhibitions Ask about the stage of portfolio development



Grades	9-12	Mathematics		
Grade Course (recommended course sequence)	Grade 9: Algebra I	Grade 10: Geometry	Grade 11: Algebra II	Grade 12: Pre-Calculus
What your child will learn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Symbols can be used to generalize mathematical situation • Variety of methods used to represent, model, set up , and solve equations and inequalities in problem situations • Representations, tools, and technology are used to solve relevant problems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use geometric thinking to understanding the relationships between mathematical concepts • Making connection between geometry and real-life applications using geometric ideas, relationships, and properties to solve problems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use symbols to represent mathematical situations and to express generalizations • Study functions and equations and their relationship • Use equations and functions to represent geometric curves and figures • Use techniques to understand relationships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transform basic parent functions • Find the domain, range, and maximum and minimum of functions • Investigate the properties of trigonometric functions • Represent patterns of numbers either arithmetically or geometrically
What your child will do	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gather, record, and use data to determine functional relationships • Solve equations using concrete models, tables, graphs, and algebraic methods • Graph and write equations of lines given specific characteristics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop algebraic expressions representing geometric properties • Use logical reasoning to prove statements are true or false • Identify and apply patterns to solve meaningful problems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognize and manipulate patterns and algebraic relationships • Manipulate symbols, such as factoring simplifying expressions, and using complex numbers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change parent functions using parts of functions • Identify different parts of a graph • Use the different properties of trigonometric functions to solve measurement problems • Use patterns to solve real world applications.
What you will see (products)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tables, graphs, equations, and verbal descriptions showing real world situations. • Pictorial or concrete models to represent algebraic concepts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explanations of solutions to real life problems • Charts and graphs depicting solutions to problems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • System steps indicating manipulated algebraic procedures • Graphs and scatterplots • Tables, charts, coordinate graphs, written descriptions, and equations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graphs of functions • Geometric figures with angles and sides marked • Circle with arcs, chords, and tangents • Note cards and notes instructional considerations.

How you can help

- Ask student what he/she is learning and why
- Ask student to explain his/her solution
- Ask student to teach you how to do the problem

- Ask student to explain his/her operational process
- Ask student to check for a reasonable solution
- Review the accuracy of the computation

- Ask student to explain the differences in ellipses/circles and parabolas hyperbolas
- Ask student to compare and contrast linear and non-linear equations

- Ask students how he/she can apply what is being learned to new situations
- Help the student write a problem for other family members to solve
- Help student have a “study” place and time



Grades	9-12	Reading/English		
Grade Course (recommended course sequence)	Grade 9: English I	Grade 10: English II	Grade 11: English III	Grade 12: English IV
What your child will learn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read fluently, regularly and independently with clear understanding for a variety of purposes of text • Follow the writing process both independently and with other to revise and refine selected drafts • Publish for general and specific audiences • Use effective verbal and nonverbal techniques • Proofreading strategies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Literary Genres • Build an extensive vocabulary • Produce legible work with accurate spelling, capitalization, and punctuation, such as italics and ellipses • Listen and respond to presentations and performances of peers • Use appropriate appeals to support claims and arguments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer observations, make connections, and raise questions in response to text • Monitor/modify reading strategies using resources and asking questions • Identify challenges that authors face and strategies they use to write different types of texts • Understand literary devices and how they function 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use study strategies, such as outlines, to recall important ideas from texts • Writing using various forms and styles, including creative writing • Organize notes from multiple sources in a useful way • Use literary criticism to enrich textual understanding • Use praise and suggestions to improve his/her own communication • Compare, contrast, and analyze various media events in newspapers, television, and the internet.
What your child will do	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn new words • Write correct sentences • Write for various audiences • Correct errors in composition • Present reports • Use a range of forms (video, photographs, etc.) to communicate specific messages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify stated/implied main ideas and details • Plan/write compositions • Compose multiple pieces of writing • Read own composition to audience • Read independently • Analyze characters in text • Conduct research 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognize similarities/differences in text • Write for different purposes • Read own composition to audience • Use audience feedback to evaluate and improve oral presentation • Explain ideas and messages in media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Answer different types and levels of questions, both literal and interpretative • Compile written ideas and information into reports, summaries and other formats • Use a range of forms (videos, photographs, etc.) to communicate • Write an extensive research paper
What you will see (products)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vocabulary list • Written responses • Notes from discussions • PowerPoint presentations • Reflective essay • Word maps and illustrations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Text notes • Planning notes for writing • Notes for a presentation • Diagram of ideas in texts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extended written responses • Developed and edited compositions • Written responses • Notes about media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading logs, book projects • Extensive reading outside of class • Portfolio of student work • Evaluation of performance • Media products
How you can help	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read newspapers, magazines, etc., with your student; discuss connections to your family's everyday life. • Ask your student to share his/her writing assignments • Discuss the texts your student is reading • Get them a library card 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help your student read books, he/she is interested in and on his/her reading level • Ask questions offer praise/helpful comments rather than criticism • Discuss the texts your student is reading • Ask your student to explain the messages in the media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help your student read books he/she is interested in and on his/her reading level • Encourage the use of correct sentences. • Encourage your student to use complete sentences and subject/verb agreement when speaking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read newspaper, magazines, etc., to your student; discuss connections to your family's everyday life • Ask your student to share his/her writing assignments • Encourage your student to create signs, posters, charts, or brochures with household instructions or information • Encourage student to keep up with outside reading



Grades	9-12	Science		
Grade Course (recommended course sequence)	Grade 9 and 10: Biology	Grade 9 and 10: Integrated Physics and Chemistry	Grade 10 and 11: Chemistry	Grade 11 and 12: Physics/Principles of Technology
What your child will learn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Metabolic processes and energy transfers Living systems within living systems Cells and viruses taxonomy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> properties of matter and its components chemical solution in everyday life changes in matter affect everyday life 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> characteristics of matter Atomic structure Bonding of atoms Chemical reactions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Laws of motion Behavior of waves Forces in nature
What your child will do	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate and identify cellular processes Compare the structure and function of viruses to cells Identify and describe the role of bacteria Interpret the functions of systems in organisms Compare organ systems Identify characteristics of kingdoms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate and identify properties of fluids Relate the chemical behavior of element Classify samples of matter from everyday life as elements, compounds or mixtures Distinguish changes in matter Relate the structure of water to its function as the universal solvent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Differentiate between physical and chemical properties of matter Analyze solids, liquids and gases Investigate mixtures and pure substances Identify characteristics of atoms in bonding Demonstrate use of scientific nomenclature, symbols, and formulas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generate and interpret graphs describing motion Analyze uniform and accelerated motion Demonstrates effects of motion on objects Examine waves in different media Identify and explain examples of forces Analyze electric circuits
What you will see (products)	Lab Experiments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrating diffusion Viruses and cells Study Lichen A comparison of vertebrate systems Measures of species diversity Analyzing the work of muscles Simulation of membrane permeability 	Lab Experiments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mass and volume Separating substances in a mixture Conservation of mass Calculate density Household substances and acids and bases 	Lab Experience: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Density Testing the viscosity of common liquids Separating ink dyes The periodic law Single replacement reaction Modeling molecular shapes Electroplating 	Lab Experience: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ball and car race The softball throw The paper river Friction The elevator race Stopping forces Investigating static electricity Circuits The nature of magnetism
How you can help	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Help construct sell models and/or diagrams Explain difference in animal and plant cells 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classify samples of matter from the home as being elements, compounds, or mixtures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify household products as mixtures and pure substances Identify elements and compounds in the home Use TEA study guide to review Objective 4 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow student to use newspapers and magazines to analyze charts and graphs in print Use TEA Study Guide to review Objective 5



Grades	9-12	Social Studies		
Grade Course (recommended course sequence)	Grade 9: World Geography	Grade 10: World History	Grade 11: United States History	Grade 12: United States Government
What your child will learn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to read and interpret maps • How to read historical (expository and biographical) information • How to analyze information by sequencing, categorizing, finding the main idea, making generalizations and predictions, summarizing, and comparing/ contrasting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where people settle • What happens when societies interact • Why wars occur • Benefits/ drawbacks of technology • Characteristics of the major economic system • Significant individuals and events from World History 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major eras and defining characteristics of U.S. History • How democracy developed in the United States • How technology and conflict change the United States • How political, economic, and social changes continue to change and shape the United States • Biographies of people from various cultures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How democracy developed in the United States • Why free enterprise developed in the United States • How laws and Supreme Court decisions affect our daily lives • How political, economic, and social changes continue to change and benefit the United States • Responsibilities of the branches of government
What your child will do	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read selected passages on various world regions • Use maps, charts, and other data tables to interpret how geography shapes people lives • Compare/ contrast different regions / climates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read about major eras and important individuals • Answer questions about geographic distribution and patterns in world history based upon maps, charts, and graphs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read selected passages about major eras and important individuals in U.S. History • Use primary sources (U.S. Constitution, quotes), to obtain information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read selected passages about the characteristics of U.S. government • Identify contribution and accomplishments of important people • Example and analyze Supreme Court cases
What you will see (products)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maps and other graphics to present geographic information • Models that represent different regions/ climates and world cultures • Drawings that support the selected readings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maps and other tools that represent geographic and historical information • Models that present the major eras and their defining characteristics of world history • Comparisons of historical accounts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maps and other graphics to represent historical information • Models that represent the major eras and their defining characteristics • Drawings that support the selected readings • Use of primary source documents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various graphic organizers that present important issues of U.S. government • Projects that summarize the importance issues of U.S. government • Projects that summarize the important of individual and government contributions

How you can help

- Let your student observe you reading
- Encourage your student to read stories or biographies related to your native culture and others

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- Let your student observe your reading
- Talk to your child about current events or government laws that impact their everyday lives



Grades	9-12	Foreign	Languages	
	Spanish I	Spanish II	French I	French II
What your child will learn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to use basic sentences to tell their names, greet one another, tell the time, where they are from... • New vocabulary, numbers... • Basic Spanish grammar • Spanish speaking countries and their capitals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extended vocabulary, verbs, adjectives, numbers... • Advance Spanish grammar • Spanish speaking countries and their capitals • Nationalities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to use basic sentences to tell their names, greet one another, tell the time, where they are from... • New vocabulary, numbers... • Basic French grammar • French speaking countries and their capitals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extended vocabulary, verbs, adjectives, numbers... • Advance French grammar • French speaking countries and their capitals • Nationalities
What your child will do	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create posters identifying family members, countries, menus, body parts... • Write sentences in response to questions • Respond verbally to simple questions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create posters identifying family members, countries, menus, body parts... • Write extended paragraphs • Experience real world problems • Verbally respond to questions and carry on a conversation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create posters identifying family members, countries, menus, body parts... • Write sentences in response to questions • Respond verbally to simple questions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create posters identifying family members, countries, menus, body parts... • Write extended paragraphs • Experience real world problems • Verbally respond to questions and carry on a conversation
What you will see (products)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Show evidence of students incorporating new vocabulary. • Historical, geographical and cultural awareness • Show evidence of knowledge of literary works 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Show evidence of students incorporating new vocabulary. • Historical, geographical and cultural awareness projects • Able to translate literary work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Show evidence of students incorporating new vocabulary. • Historical, geographical and cultural awareness • Show evidence of knowledge of literary works 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Show evidence of students incorporating new vocabulary. • Historical, geographical and cultural awareness projects • Able to translate literary work
How you can help	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage participation and support/ involvement • Monitor your child by asking about Student's portfolio, grades, test scores or call the teacher 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage participation and support/ involvement • Monitor your child by asking about Student's portfolio, grades, test scores or call the teacher 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage participation and support/ involvement • Monitor your child by asking about Student's portfolio, grades, test scores or call the teacher 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage participation and support/ involvement • Monitor your child by asking about Student's portfolio, grades, test scores or call the teacher