



Secondary School

Parent and Student Handbook

MISSION STATEMENT

Canyon Grove is an *inspired community* of learners, parents, and educators who find *fulfillment and joy* in pursuing *excellence in learning, self-accountability*, and in meeting *unique individual* needs in order to prepare students for the *life-long pursuit of knowledge* to attain their *full potential*.

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome to Canyon Grove Academy Secondary School!

We are so glad to have you as part of our unique, publicly funded educational community. At Canyon Grove Academy (CGA), we value both our students and families, and the collaborative partnership we share in supporting student growth and success. Your enrollment in our Secondary School Program (grades 8–12) marks the beginning of an exciting journey, and we're honored to walk alongside you.

We encourage both students and parents to read through the Secondary Parent and Student Handbook carefully. It serves as a helpful guide for understanding the structure, expectations, and opportunities available within our Secondary Program. While the handbook outlines many important details, it does not include all policies and procedures. For a complete reference, the CGA Policy Manual is available on our website.

We're honored that you've chosen CGA as your educational home. As stated in our mission, we strive to be an inspired community of learners, parents, and educators who find fulfillment and joy in the pursuit of excellence, personal accountability, and meeting individual needs—preparing students for a lifelong journey of learning and reaching their full potential.

Welcome to the CGA Secondary School family!

Sincerely,
Kim Goates
Superintendent Canyon Grove Academy

Table of Contents

Canyon Grove Academy.....	6
Philosophy.....	6
What We Offer.....	6
Enrollment.....	6
Our Commitment to You.....	7
At Canyon Grove Academy Secondary School, we are committed to supporting both students and families as learners grow into greater independence and responsibility. Here's what you can expect from us:.....	7
Responsibilities of Parents and Students.....	7
Parent Expectations.....	7
Read the Handbook.....	7
Stay Aware of Student Progress.....	7
Meet With Administration and Teachers.....	8
Stay Up-To-Date on Communication.....	8
Review Testing Expectations.....	8
Student Expectations.....	9
Behavioral expectations for students.....	9
Academic Expectations for Students.....	9
Dress Code.....	10
Canyon Grove Academy Secondary School Dress Code Policy.....	10
Junior High:.....	10
High School:.....	10
General Guidelines:.....	10
Hygiene and Grooming:.....	10
Enforcement:.....	11
Cheating & AI Usage.....	11
CGA Cheating Policy.....	11
Three Strike Policy.....	11
Our Philosophy On Using AI.....	11
school.ai.....	12
How You Can Use AI for School.....	12
Why You Shouldn't Use AI for Everything.....	12
Academic or Behavior Probation.....	13
Campus Procedures and Daily Instructions.....	14
Locations, Times, and Drop-off.....	14
South Jordan.....	14
Monday & Wednesdays 9:00 am-3:10 pm.....	14
Daily Procedures For All Campuses.....	15
Lunch.....	16

-Grade 7-8.....	16
-Grade 9.....	16
-Grade 10-12.....	16
Attendance.....	16
-Absences:.....	16
-Excused Absences:.....	16
Please notify your teacher if you will be absent or if you plan on taking a family vacation. You can excuse absences via Boost or by notifying Secondary School administration.....	16
Resources & Technology.....	17
Identifying Students with Special Needs.....	17
Withdrawal Procedures.....	18
Frequently Asked Questions.....	18
Login and Other Instructions.....	19
Curriculum.....	19
Junior High - Grades 7-8.....	19
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS.....	19
What is NoRedInk?.....	19
How does it work?	
NoRedInk provides interactive exercises that adapt to each student’s skill level. It starts by asking students about their interests—like favorite TV shows, movies, or hobbies—and then uses those to create personalized practice questions.....	19
What is Actively Learn?.....	20
How Does it Work?.....	20
MATHEMATICS CURRICULUM.....	20
What is Zearn Math?.....	20
Here's how it supports your student's learning:.....	20
Why is it beneficial?.....	20
What is IXL Math?.....	21
How does it work?.....	21
What is ALEKS Math?.....	21
How does it work?.....	21
How does ALEKS help fill math gaps?.....	21
US HISTORY CURRICULUM.....	22
SCIENCE CURRICULUM.....	22
HEALTH & PE CURRICULUM.....	23
Physical Education.....	23
Health.....	23
What is Botvin LifeSkills Training Junior High Program?.....	23
Personal Self-Management Skills.....	23
Social Skills.....	23
Health and Prevention Skills.....	23
Why is it useful for junior high students?.....	24
COLLEGE & CAREER AWARENESS.....	24
What will my student be doing?.....	24

Aptitude Assessments –.....	24
Interest Surveys –.....	24
DIGITAL LITERACY.....	25
KEYBOARDING.....	25
SUPPLEMENTARY OR CURRICULUM OF CHOICE.....	25
High School.....	25
BYU Independent Study.....	25
Concurrent Enrollment Classes.....	26
How CE Classes Work:.....	26
Benefits of CE:.....	26
General Education Certificate (GEC).....	26
-What the GEC Includes:.....	26
Canyon Grove Encouragement & Support.....	27
Mountainland Technical College (MTECH).....	27
What MTECH Offers:.....	27
Canyon Grove’s Partnership with MTECH.....	27
Benefits for CGA Students:.....	27
Why Choose MTECH:.....	28
Electives.....	28
Locations will vary based on the elective and will be listed in Boost on your calendar.....	28
Portfolio Credit.....	28
Activities.....	28

Canyon Grove Academy

Philosophy

Canyon Grove Academy Secondary School is designed to help students transition from guided learning to confident independence. We believe that this age is a powerful stage of development, where students are ready to take on more responsibility, explore their interests, and learn how to direct their own growth.

Our program offers families flexibility and choice while maintaining the structure and supporting students' needs. Through hybrid learning, mastery-based progression, and small-group instruction, students gain academic confidence, build healthy habits, and prepare for future success in high school and beyond.

The educators and participants of CGA Secondary School believe that the best learning occurs when:

- Students are guided in owning their learning, including tracking their own progress and setting goals
- Mastery and understanding are prioritized over speed and completion
- There is a balance of structure and freedom, allowing students to explore their interests while meeting expectations
- Students are supported in developing executive functioning skills like time management, organization, and resilience
- We nurture the whole student, including their social-emotional growth and character development
- The school, family, and community work together to prepare students for real-world challenges

What We Offer

The goal of Canyon Grove Academy Junior High is to provide families with a learning environment that supports both academic and personal development. We provide students and parents with the following resources:

- A dedicated team of teachers and staff who guide students in goal setting, progress tracking, and subject mastery
- In-person core subject instruction through our hybrid program, including English, math, science, and social studies
- Friday electives and enrichment opportunities that explore art, STEM, writing, service learning, and more
- Competency-based learning that allows students to work at their own pace while mastering essential concepts
- Small cohort groups to build connection, accountability, and strong relationships with peers and teachers
- Tools and training for life readiness, including leadership opportunities, real-world application projects, and pathways to concurrent enrollment

Enrollment

Any student physically residing in the State of Utah who is of school age may request enrollment. Enrollment for the next year will open at the beginning of the calendar year. Students who are currently enrolled will be given priority, with siblings of enrolled students given the next access, and then enrollment will be open to the general public. To enroll, please go to canyongrove.com and click "enroll" or [click here](#).

Our Commitment to You

At Canyon Grove Academy Secondary School, we are committed to supporting both students and families as learners grow into greater independence and responsibility. Here's what you can expect from us:

Consistent Support from Teachers

- Each student is part of a small cohort led by certified teachers.
- These teachers serve as the main point of contact for academic progress, questions, and scheduling.
- Teachers are available during school hours and respond to questions in a timely manner.

Hybrid Learning Model

- Students attend in-person classes two days per week at one of our campuses (South Jordan, American Fork, or Payson).
- Online learning is integrated and supported by teacher-guided expectations.
- Fridays are available for enrichment, electives, and service learning.

Competency-Based Education

- Students move forward by demonstrating understanding and mastery of concepts, not just by completing tasks.
- Learning is documented through assessments, projects, and teacher observations.
- Progress is tracked and shared with families through online tools.

State Assessments

- All Utah-mandated tests are administered in the fall and spring.
- Assessments help identify student strengths and areas for growth.
- Results contribute to tracking power standards and are available for parents to review.

Whole Student Support

- Social-emotional learning is integrated into the curriculum.
- Leadership, service learning, and personal development are key parts of our program.
- We aim to help students grow both academically and personally.

Clear and Regular Communication

- Weekly newsletters and regular teacher updates keep families informed.
- The school website provides additional information, resources, and updates.
- Our team is here to partner with you and ensure your student's success.

Responsibilities of Parents and Students

Parent Expectations

Read the Handbook

Parents and students are required to read the applicable handbook.

Stay Aware of Student Progress

The parent or legal guardian will be expected to stay up-to-date on all communications from instructional coaches, administration, and teachers, as well as periodically check students' grades on [Boost](#). Please reach out to the teacher and instructional coaches if your student is struggling or if you think the program is not working well for your student. CGA does allow flexibility in curriculum and many supports for students. Communication is key to utilizing all of the learning opportunities CGA has to offer.

[*Instructions on how to log in to Boost](#)

Meet With Administration and Teachers

School administration, teachers, students, and parents are partners in the education of each student. It is important to communicate regularly with your Student Services Director throughout the school year. Building a strong relationship with your Student Services Director helps ensure you can work together effectively to support your student's needs. Please be mindful of staff work hours, which are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. If you have questions or concerns, please reach out, and staff will respond as soon as possible.

Our Instructional Coaches are available to support students both online and in person as needed. When a student needs support or tutoring, they will sign up and be assigned an Instructional Coach/Tutor who meets with them on a set schedule to provide personalized online help, answer questions, and guide learning. Your student may sign up for multiple six-week sessions as needed.

These same Instructional Coaches are also present during in-person school days to assist students face-to-face. Whether students need extra help understanding a concept or support staying on track, the Instructional Coaches are there to provide encouragement and guidance throughout their learning journey.

This consistent support, both online and in the classroom, helps students build confidence and succeed academically. If you have any questions about support for your student, please email alexis.foust@canyongrove.com.

Stay Up-To-Date on Communication

CGA will be sending out weekly emails with important information. We also provide information on our [website](#) and through [Boost](#). Our goal is to be great communicators. Please watch for our communication, then read and respond as required. We strive to keep emails to a minimum to keep you informed and up-to-date on all important information.

Review Testing Expectations

Students will participate in all assessments required by the State as well as school-wide benchmark assessments. Parents will be notified of the testing required for your student. Parents are responsible for ensuring their students attend the required testing.

[*ParentalExclusionFormSecondary](#)

Tests include:

- RISE Benchmark Modules Mathematics, grades 7-8
- ACT, grade 11
- RISE Benchmarks Modules Science, grades 7-8
- CTE Skill Certificate (Required for Certification)
- RISE Interim English Language Arts (ELA), grades 7-8
- DLM English Language Arts (ELA), special education
- RISE Interim Mathematics, grades 7-8
- DLM Mathematics, special education
- RISE Summative English Language Arts (ELA), grades 7-8
- DLM Science, special education
- RISE Summative Mathematics, grades 7-8
- General Financial Literacy (GFL)
- RISE Summative Science, grades 7-8
- High School Civics Exam (Required for Graduation)
- RISE Summative Writing (Grade 8)
- NWEA Middle and High School Core Benchmarks English Language Arts (ELA), grades 7-12
- NWEA Middle and High School Core Benchmarks Reading, grades 7-12
- Utah Aspire Plus Reading, grades 9-10
- NWEA Middle and High School Core Benchmarks Mathematics, grades 7-12

- Utah Aspire Plus English, grades 9-10
- NWEA Middle and High School Core Benchmarks Science, grades 7-12
- Utah Aspire Plus Mathematics, grades 9-10
- RISE Benchmark Modules English Language Arts (ELA), grades 7-8
- Utah Aspire Plus Science, grades 9-10

Student Expectations

Behavioral expectations for students

Canyon Grove Academy expects all students to conduct themselves in a manner that is appropriate and respectful within the school environment. This means acting in ways that support a positive, safe, and focused learning atmosphere. Students must arrive on time for all classes and return promptly from lunch and breaks, demonstrating responsibility and respect for both their own education and their classmates' learning time.

Respect for teachers, staff, and fellow students is fundamental. Students are expected to follow directions, listen attentively, and communicate politely. Use of phones or other personal electronic devices during school hours is not permitted unless specifically allowed by a teacher for educational purposes. This policy helps minimize distractions and ensures everyone can focus on learning.

CGA is committed to maintaining an inclusive community where all students feel safe and valued. Disrespect or discrimination based on race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, disability, or any other personal characteristic will not be tolerated. Students are expected to treat others with kindness and understanding, celebrating the diversity that strengthens our school community.

Ultimately, the behavior expectations at Canyon Grove Academy are designed to prepare students not only for academic success but also for respectful and responsible citizenship. By upholding these standards, students contribute to a positive school culture where everyone can thrive.

Academic Expectations for Students

At Canyon Grove Academy, we hold high academic standards because we believe in each student's potential to achieve excellence. Students are expected to take responsibility for their learning by actively participating in class, completing assignments on time, and seeking help when needed. We encourage all students to strive for their best possible grades—settling for average or "just okay" is not aligned with the values we promote at CGA. Excellence and effort go hand in hand, and we support students in pushing beyond their comfort zones to reach their full potential.

To ensure readiness and success, students must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0 or higher to participate in Concurrent Enrollment (CE) classes. This requirement helps guarantee that students are academically prepared to handle the increased rigor of college-level coursework. Maintaining strong academic performance not only opens doors for advanced opportunities but also builds habits and skills that benefit students throughout their education and future careers.

CGA is committed to fostering a culture of academic integrity, curiosity, and perseverance. We expect students to embrace challenges, learn from mistakes, and continuously improve, knowing that their effort today lays the foundation for tomorrow's success.

Dress Code

Canyon Grove Academy Secondary School Dress Code Policy

At Canyon Grove Academy, we are committed to fostering a positive, respectful, and focused learning environment. We believe that the way students dress should support their ability to learn, move comfortably, and engage fully in classroom activities without unnecessary distractions.

Junior High:

To help create a sense of community and simplify dress expectations, all **Junior High students (grades 7–8)** are required to wear a **Canyon Grove Academy t-shirt or sweatshirt** while on campus. Students must also follow the general guidelines for bottoms and other wear.

- **CGA-branded shirts or sweatshirts must be worn and visible during school hours.**
- While students may wear jackets or coats to and from school or during outdoor activities, **non-CGA outerwear must be removed while in class.**
- CGA sweatshirts or layering pieces (such as long-sleeved undershirts) are encouraged to help students stay comfortable throughout the day.

This policy helps foster a cohesive school environment and ensures consistency in classroom expectations.

High School:

High School Students do not need to wear Canyon Grove-specific shirts, but must follow the guidelines below.

General Guidelines:

Students are expected to wear **learning-appropriate clothing** each day. This means:

- **Clothing should allow students to focus on learning, not on what they or others are wearing.**
- **Outfits must be appropriate for a classroom setting**—comfortable, modest, and suitable for participating in a range of academic and school-related activities.

To support a productive and respectful school environment, students should follow these guidelines:

- Clothing must cover undergarments.
- Tops must have straps and should not be low-cut in the front or back.
- Shorts, skirts, and dresses should provide full coverage when sitting, standing, and moving.
- Clothing and accessories may not display or promote inappropriate content, including:
 - Profanity
 - Drugs, alcohol, or tobacco
 - Violence or hate speech
 - Sexually suggestive images or language
- Footwear must be worn at all times and should be appropriate for school activities.
- Pajamas, blankets, or costume attire are not permitted during regular school hours unless specified for a spirit day or school event.

Hygiene and Grooming:

Students are expected to come to school clean and well-groomed each day. This includes practicing good hygiene, wearing clean clothes, and maintaining a neat appearance. Being well-groomed helps create a positive learning environment and shows respect for yourself and those around you. Hair, skin, and nails should be kept clean and maintained.

Maintaining a clean and presentable appearance supports focus, confidence, and school pride.

Enforcement:

Students who are not in compliance with the dress code will be asked to change into appropriate clothing. Repeated violations may involve communication with parents or guardians.

If a student is unsure whether an outfit is appropriate, we encourage them to ask a teacher or administrator in advance. Our goal is always to guide, not to shame, and to keep the focus where it belongs — on learning and growth.

Cheating & AI Usage

CGA Cheating Policy

Canyon Grove Academy **does not tolerate any form of cheating**. Cheating includes, but is not limited to, copying someone else's work, using unauthorized materials or AI tools, sharing answers, or submitting work that is not your own. Cheating undermines the purpose of education and prevents students from truly learning and growing. It also breaks the trust between students, teachers, and the school community. Any student found cheating will face disciplinary consequences. At CGA, we expect all students to act with integrity, take responsibility for their own learning, and uphold the values of honesty and hard work.

Three Strike Policy

Canyon Grove Academy takes academic integrity seriously and expects all students to complete their work honestly. To ensure fairness and accountability, the following 3-strikes policy will be applied to any form of academic dishonesty, including cheating, plagiarism, or misuse of AI tools.

Strike 1:

The student, parent/guardian, and teacher will meet to discuss the incident. The student will be required to redo the assignment honestly for partial or full credit, depending on the situation. This is a learning opportunity and a warning.

Strike 2:

The student will receive a zero on the assignment with no option to redo it. The incident will be documented, and a follow-up conversation will take place with the student and parents to review expectations going forward.

Strike 3:

The student will receive a zero on the assignment and will not be allowed to redo it. In addition, the student will be placed on academic or behavioral probation. Further violations may result in more serious disciplinary action, including loss of privileges or removal from programs. Canyon Grove Academy Secondary School believes in restorative practice.

Canyon Grove is committed to helping students grow through their own effort. This policy is designed to support integrity, responsibility, and long-term success.

Our Philosophy On Using AI

school.ai

Canyon Grove Academy students will be allowed to use school.ai as their only approved artificial intelligence tool for schoolwork. To support responsible and focused use of AI, all student laptops will be configured to restrict access to other AI platforms. This ensures a safe, consistent, and educationally appropriate environment where students can use AI as a learning tool—without the risks of distraction, misinformation, or misuse. school.ai has been selected because it aligns with our academic goals and provides support while still requiring students to think, create, and learn for themselves.

How You Can Use AI for School

1. To get unstuck.
If you're confused or don't understand a topic, AI can explain it in a different way that might click.
2. To learn faster.
You can ask follow-up questions immediately and learn at your own pace—no waiting for class or office hours.
3. To build good habits.
It can help you organize your thoughts, plan assignments, or give you feedback as you work.
4. To feel more confident.
Practicing with AI before a test or presentation can help you feel ready and less nervous.
5. To explore your curiosity.
You can ask AI random questions or new ideas just for fun or to go beyond the assignment.

Why You *Shouldn't* Use AI for Everything

1. You won't actually learn.
If you copy answers or rely on AI to write for you, you're not building your own skills. Later, you'll be stuck when you have to do it yourself.
2. It can be wrong.
AI sometimes gives incorrect or made-up answers. You need to think critically and double-check facts.
3. **You'll lose your own voice.**
Writing or thinking like a robot isn't as powerful as using your own words and ideas. Relying too much on AI can lead to a loss of creativity, which is one of the most valuable human traits. Creativity is how we solve problems, express ourselves, and bring new ideas into the world. When students let AI generate all their writing, thinking, or projects, they miss the chance to develop their own voice and original ideas. Over time, this can weaken confidence and reduce the ability to think independently. Human creativity is what drives innovation, art, and progress, and it's something that grows through practice, effort, and even failure. Protecting and developing your creativity is essential—not just for school, but for life.
4. Teachers can tell.
AI-generated work often has a certain tone or uses vocabulary that doesn't match how you normally write. That can raise red flags.
5. You might face consequences.
Schools often have rules about using AI. Using it the wrong way (like copying whole essays) can get you in trouble.
6. **You'll miss out on the struggle.**
Struggling a little is part of learning. It's how your brain grows. AI should help you through the hard parts not skip them. Struggling through challenges is one of the most important parts of how humans learn. When we wrestle with a difficult problem, our brains create stronger connections and deeper understanding. This

process, called productive struggle, builds memory, problem-solving skills, and long-term retention. If students rely on AI to do the thinking for them, they miss that critical moment when learning actually happens. Using AI to support your effort is smart, but skipping the struggle means skipping the growth. Real learning takes effort, mistakes, and reflection, and that is something no AI can replace.

Academic or Behavior Probation

Academic Probation

Academic probation is a formal warning that a student is not meeting the school's academic expectations. While on academic probation, students may lose certain privileges such as participating in school events, leaving campus, or holding leadership roles and they will be required to follow a plan for improvement. The goal is to help students get back on track and take responsibility for their learning.

Academic probation may include but is not limited to the following:

- Meeting with the school social worker and other school administration regularly
- Meeting with Instructional Coaches weekly
- Restrictions on class enrollment
- Loss of privileges, like leaving campus for lunch and other privileges
- Increased communication, regular meetings with parents and school administration

Academic improvement plans will be decided by school administration, parents, and students. If the academic plan is not followed, the student may lose their spot in the program and face expulsion.

Behavioral Probation

Behavioral probation is a formal notice given when a student's actions do not align with the school's behavioral expectations. While on behavioral probation, students may lose privileges such as participating in school events, leaving campus, or holding leadership roles. They may also be required to follow a behavior improvement plan. The purpose of probation is to provide support and clear expectations to help the student correct their behavior and make positive choices moving forward.

Behavioral Probation may include but is not limited to the following.

- Meeting with the school social worker and other school administration regularly
- Identifying behavioral issues and setting goals and plans to improve behavior
- Added learning experiences about behavioral dangers
- Loss of privileges, such as leaving campus for lunch or student leadership opportunities or activity opportunities
- Increased communication, regular meetings with parents and school administration

Academic improvement plans will be decided by school administration, parents, and students. If the academic plan is not followed, the student may lose their spot in the program and face expulsion.

At Canyon Grove Academy, we expect all students to demonstrate professional behavior both in and out of the classroom. We believe in supporting students as they take charge of their own learning and take full ownership of their actions and choices. Our approach is grounded in the understanding of the Pygmalion Effect—the idea that

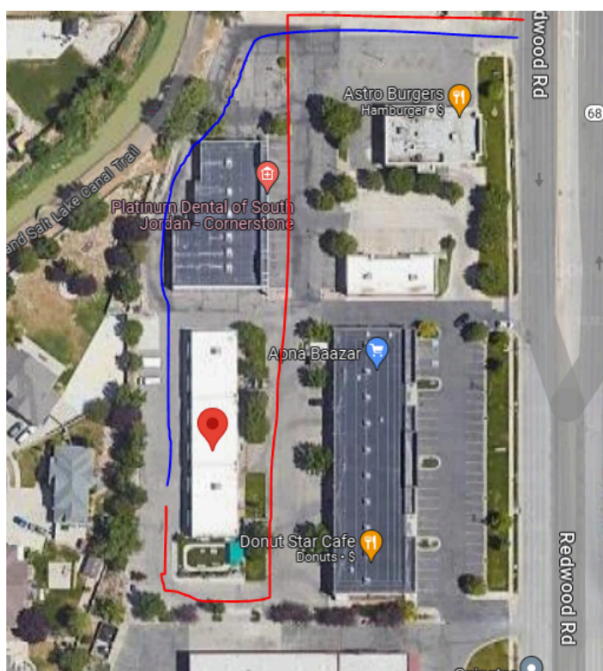
people tend to live up to the expectations set for them. By treating students as mature, responsible individuals, we encourage them to rise to that standard and develop the skills and habits that will serve them well in school and beyond. At CGA, respect, accountability, and professionalism are not just rules—they are values we cultivate to prepare students for success in all areas of life.

Campus Procedures and Daily Instructions

Locations, Times, and Drop-off

South Jordan

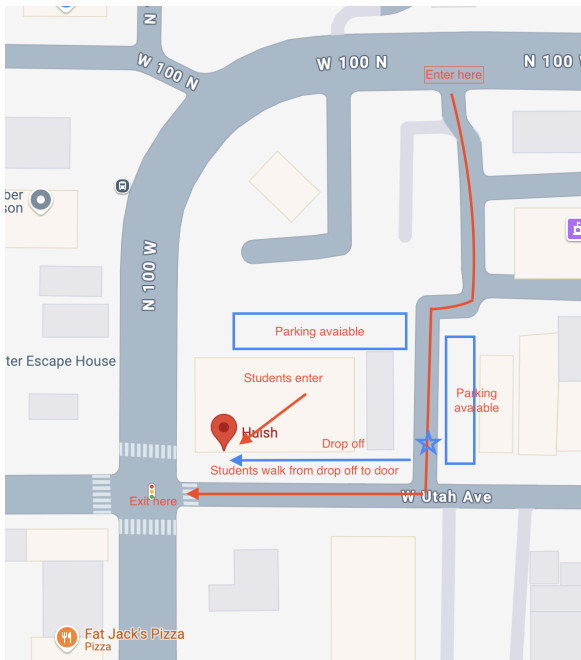
Monday & Wednesdays 9:00 am-3:10 pm
10494 S Redwood Rd, South Jordan, UT 84095



Please follow the red line for entering the carpool and the blue line for exiting the carpool.

Payson

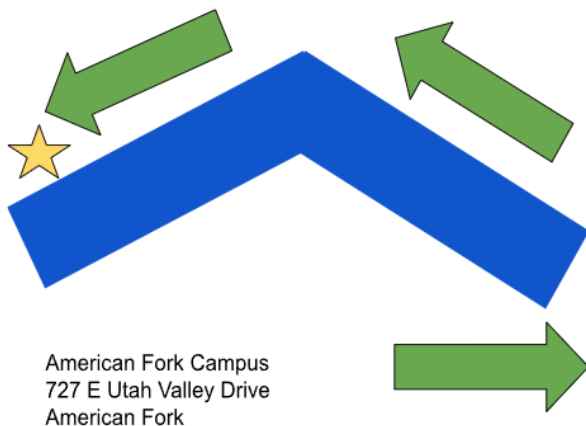
Mondays and Wednesdays 9:00-3:10
96 W Utah Ave, Payson, UT 84651



American Fork

727 E Utah Valley, American Fork, UT 84003

Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:00-3:10



American Fork Campus
727 E Utah Valley Drive
American Fork

Daily Procedures For All Campuses

- Students arrive at school **no earlier than 8:40 am.**
- **Students will pick up their lanyard when they go to their class and put their phones away in their bags.**
- **Students may not leave the campus without permission.** If they need to leave early their parent must come inside the building to pick up their student and inform the teacher lead on site. Students will replace their lanyards if they are leaving campus. If students will regularly be leaving campus during school hours, we encourage parents to text or email the administration to let them know.
- **Students leaving to use the restroom** will put a restroom card in their lanyard slot when they leave the classroom and then take it out upon returning.

- **Students working anywhere in the building that is not a designated classroom** must have a teacher present and put a studyhall card in their lanyard slot that includes a note as to where they are in the building. They remove the card when they return to the classroom.
- **Classroom doors will remain locked during the school day.**

Lunch

Lunch must be brought to school as there is no lunch program. We encourage students to bring healthy food that will feed their brain and help them learn, please also encourage your student to eat breakfast to allow them to be at their best for school. Leaving campus for lunch is determined based on grade level

-Grade 7-8

Students are not allowed to leave campus for lunch and must eat lunch on campus. Please make sure your student brings lunch daily.

-Grade 9

Students cannot leave for lunch unless they have permission from their parents to do so. If you would like your student to be able to leave campus for lunch please fill out the following form and send it to the student services department.

*Off-campus [lunch permission form](#)

-Grade 10-12

Students in grades 10-12 will be allowed to leave campus for lunch under the following conditions

- Students must return to campus on time and be ready for class after lunch.
- Canyon Grove Academy is not responsible for students while they are off campus.
- Students must follow all school behavior expectations while off campus and in the community.
- Students must maintain passing grades and positive behavior to retain this privilege.
- This privilege may be revoked at any time due to tardiness, inappropriate behavior, or academic concerns.

If these conditions are not met or agreed upon, students' ability to leave campus for lunch may be restricted or removed.

Attendance

Attendance records are maintained and reviewed by teachers daily. Attendance is also taken every time your student logs into Boost or attends in person. Students log in through Boost for any online learning classes or resources. Parents will be notified if their student does not attend school or does not return from lunch and has not been excused by a parent or guardian previously.

-Absences:

If a student has ten consecutive unexcused absences, that student will receive a Truancy notice and must be dropped from our rolls.

-Excused Absences:

Please notify your teacher if you will be absent or if you plan on taking a family vacation. You can excuse absences via Boost or by notifying Secondary School administration.

Resources & Technology

Additional resources and technology are available for checkout through our resource library. You can either come in to shop the library in person or browse our catalog online. This library is located at the Main Campus in Pleasant Grove

To check out materials remotely: You will need to access our library catalog and place a hold request on an item. Once you have requested that item, our librarian will pull the item, check it out to your student, and have it delivered to your epic day location. (Chromebooks must be picked up and returned in person). To use the online catalog, please read the tutorial found on the [Library page of the Canyon Grove Academy Website](#).

To check out materials in person: Our library hours for the 2024-2025 school year are **Monday - Friday from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm and 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm**. We will be closed between the hours of 1:00 to 3:00 every day to hold classes and provide the librarians time to prepare materials for you. Please check in at the front office before coming upstairs. You are welcome to browse the resource buckets on your own or ask our staff for assistance in locating just the right materials for your student. Unlike the curriculum, which has a year-long checkout, most resources may be checked out for one month. You may check out up to five resources per student (this limit includes regular library books as well). Once you have your selection of materials ready to check out, simply make your way to the circulation desk, where our librarian will check everything out to you.

We strongly encourage you to review all of the Library Rules and Procedures, which are also listed on the [Library page of the Canyon Grove Academy Website](#). Scroll past the tutorial to locate this information. Of special note are details on what needs to be returned (consumables vs. non-consumables), what fines will be assessed, and what our Chromebook policy is. You will be held accountable for the materials that you check out, as outlined in this policy.

Identifying Students with Special Needs

What is Special Education (SPED)?

Special education means specially designed instruction, at no cost to the parents, to meet the unique needs of a student with a disability.

What is an IEP?

An Individualized Education Plan (or Program) is also known as an IEP. This is a plan or program developed to ensure that a student with an identified disability who is attending an elementary or secondary educational institution receives specialized instruction and related services.

Do I need to be using a certain curriculum to receive SPED services?

Yes! Since special education is federally funded, your student has to be using a state-approved curriculum in order to qualify for services. If you have questions as to what the state-approved curriculum is, please contact sheri.berard@canyongrove.com

How does a student qualify for an IEP?

The first thing that we look for is that the student is not performing academically at grade level. If they are not, then the special education director will reach out to you. If it is something that you notice, then please let our Special Education director know. From there, you will work together to see what the cause of the delay could be. This could include psychological testing from the school psychologist, where they will assess academic and cognitive abilities. Your student will also be given tier 2 and 3 interventions to see if that helps close the academic gap first. If the interventions have not worked, then a team (including you, the parent) will meet to determine if your student is eligible for an IEP.

Where are services given?

All of our special education services are provided at the main campus in Pleasant Grove.

My student had an IEP at their old school. What should I do?

If you have a copy that you can send, that will help services not to be interrupted while we wait for your students' previous IEP to be transferred to us. If not, that is ok, we will request their file when you enroll with us. Your student's current IEP and services will be honored while the school determines if it needs to be amended, redone, or accepted as it is.

Withdrawal Procedures

Withdrawal – Notify the registrar and your Student Services Department of plans to withdraw as soon as possible. It is imperative this be done before enrolling in any other school.

Returning School Materials

- If a student withdraws from CGA, the return of school property must be completed within 15 days.
- The Office will email the family a list of items that must be returned. Families will be invoiced for the repair or replacement of lost or damaged school property.
- If the equipment and materials are not returned or invoices are not paid after three attempts to contact, including one certified letter, the matter will be turned over to a collection agency. Once an account has been turned over to collections, the family is responsible for paying the collection agency. Materials can no longer be returned to CGA.

Frequently Asked Questions

Emergency - If there is ever an emergency or a snow day, we will send a text notification to the cell phone number you have listed in Aspire.

Invitations- If you would like to have your student pass out birthday invitations at school, the procedure is to make sure the entire class is invited. If you are inviting just a few kiddos (this is more typical), please plan for a parent to be a carpool at the end of the day to hand personally to the students' parents directly.

Classroom visits: We are a learning community that works together to bring education alive for your student. With that in mind, parents are encouraged NOT to attend a student's class as it can be disruptive for other students in the classroom. We also require every adult that is in the classroom to pass a background check to ensure student safety.

Water Bottles- We encourage your students to bring a water bottle to their school day.

Library -Students are allowed to check out books from the library during regular library hours.

Login and Other Instructions

[Login instructions for Boost](#)

[Here are the login instructions for BYU IS classes.](#)

[Applying for UVU](#)

[Registering for Classes UVU](#) Scroll down for instructions on how to register for classes once you find your CRN.

Login to Chromebook: To log in to your Chromebook, use your Gmail address and password. The first login to your Chromebook will use a preset password. After the first login, you will be prompted to make a new password. Please write this down, as staff will not know it, and you must have it to log in to your Chromebook.

Curriculum

Junior High - Grades 7-8



ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Our ELA Curriculum will be using two online programs in blended learning, with students engaging in person and at home with these programs. Additionally, this will be supplemented by standards-aligned materials developed by our in-house CGA curriculum specialist.

What is NoRedInk?

NoRedInk is an online learning platform that helps students improve their grammar, writing, and language skills. It's designed for students in grades 5–12 and is commonly used in middle schools.

How does it work?

NoRedInk provides interactive exercises that adapt to each student's skill level. It starts by asking students about their interests—like favorite TV shows, movies, or hobbies—and then uses those to create personalized practice questions.

What does my student do on NoRedInk?

Students work on:

- Grammar and punctuation skills
- Sentence structure and clarity
- Writing full essays and paragraphs
- Revising and editing for correctness and style

Students complete assignments from their teacher, get immediate feedback, and can retry until they master the concept.

What is Actively Learn?

Actively Learn is an online learning platform designed for students in grades 3–12. It enhances reading comprehension and critical thinking across subjects like English Language Arts (ELA), science, and social studies

How Does it Work?

- **Interactive Reading:** Students engage with texts that include embedded questions, notes, and multimedia to deepen understanding. Students are assigned full novels and/or informational texts to support comprehension.
- **Personalized Support:** Features like text-to-speech, translations into over 100 languages, and adjustable fonts cater to diverse learning needs.
- **Teacher Integration:** Educators can assign readings, monitor progress, and provide real-time feedback, tailoring instruction to individual student needs.



MATHEMATICS CURRICULUM

As a middle school, we will use Zearn Math, which supports students to access grade level math learning and mastery. Additionally, we know that all students are not ready for grade level math. We will support filling “math holes” to allow students to access grade level math with IXL and Aleks.

What is Zearn Math?

Zearn Math is an online platform designed to help students in grades 6–8 build a deep understanding of math. It complements classroom instruction by offering interactive digital lessons that align with widely-used curricula like Eureka Math and Illustrative Mathematics .Zearn combines teacher-led instruction with self-paced digital lessons.

Here's how it supports your student's learning:

- **Short, Engaging Videos:** Lessons begin with concise videos featuring teachers and peers explaining math concepts.
- **Interactive Practice:** Students engage with digital manipulatives and visual models to explore math ideas.
- **Immediate Feedback:** The platform provides real-time feedback, helping students learn from mistakes and reinforcing understanding.
- **Adaptive Support:** If a student struggles, Zearn offers just-in-time support and foundational lessons tailored to their needs .

Why is it beneficial?

- **Reinforces Classroom Learning:** Zearn's lessons mirror what students learn in class, providing additional practice and reinforcement.
- **Supports Diverse Learners:** The platform's adaptive features cater to various learning styles and needs.
- **Builds Confidence:** By allowing students to learn at their own pace and providing immediate feedback, Zearn helps build math confidence.
- **Accessible Anywhere:** As a web-based platform, students can access Zearn from home or school, making it a flexible learning tool .

What is IXL Math?

IXL Math is an online learning platform that helps students in grades K–12 build strong math skills through personalized, interactive practice. It's widely used in schools and at home to support students at all level, from those who need extra help to those who want to advance.

How does it work?

IXL offers thousands of math skills, organized by grade level and topic. Students are asked to take a diagnostic test to determine where they have “math holes” and then can work on mastering specific skills that will support them in grade level math.

- Targeted Practice: Students work on specific math skills based on their grade or needs.
- SmartScore System: Each skill has a SmartScore from 0–100. As students practice, the score increases, reflecting their growing mastery.
- Real-Time Feedback: IXL explains wrong answers immediately, helping students learn from mistakes.
- Adaptive Learning: The platform adjusts the difficulty based on how the student is doing, offering support or challenge as needed. Students are encouraged to work on skills that they struggle with per their diagnostic test.

What is ALEKS Math?

ALEKS (Assessment and LEarning in Knowledge Spaces) is an online math program for grades 6–12 that provides personalized instruction based on what each student knows—and doesn't know. It's widely used in schools and can also be accessed at home.

How does it work?

ALEKS uses a powerful artificial intelligence (AI) system to:

- Assess Your Student's Knowledge: It begins with a diagnostic test to find out exactly which math concepts your student understands and where they need support.
- Create a Personalized Learning Path: Based on the results, ALEKS builds a customized set of topics for your student to work through.
- Offer Targeted Practice: Students get clear, step-by-step explanations and interactive problems to help them learn new concepts at their own pace.
- Check for Mastery: ALEKS regularly checks to make sure students retain what they've learned and identifies when it's time to review.

How does ALEKS help fill math gaps?

This is one of ALEKS's biggest strengths:

- Pinpoints Specific Gaps: The program doesn't just say a student is “behind”—it shows exactly which skills are missing.
- Adapts in Real Time: As your student learns, ALEKS updates the learning path to reflect progress or reteach when needed.
- Ensures True Understanding: Students must demonstrate consistent success before ALEKS considers a topic mastered.



US HISTORY CURRICULUM

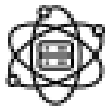
Our junior high students will step into the role of “History Detectives”—asking big questions, examining evidence, and uncovering what we can learn from the past to better understand the present.

We will be using a specially curated and standards-aligned curriculum developed by our own Canyon Grove Academy Curriculum Specialist. This curriculum is rooted in inquiry-based learning and focuses heavily on the use of primary source documents—authentic materials from the past such as letters, speeches, maps, and photographs.

Through this approach, students will:

- Investigate historical events and people using real evidence
- Develop critical thinking and analysis skills
- Make connections between past and present
- Explore multiple perspectives in history

To support learning beyond the classroom, parents will receive a weekly email outlining what is being taught, along with access to the curriculum materials. This will help you continue the conversation at home, encourage thoughtful discussions, and reinforce key concepts in a meaningful way.



SCIENCE CURRICULUM

Our junior high Science and STEM curriculum has been developed by our own CGA Curriculum Specialist and is designed to spark curiosity, foster critical thinking, and help students understand the world through exploration and discovery. Our program is: standards-aligned, inquiry-based, hands-on, rooted in the scientific method, and centered on Phenomenon-Based Learning.

Students learn by doing. Through guided investigations, experiments, and real-world problem-solving, students act as scientists—asking questions, forming hypotheses, collecting data, and drawing evidence-based conclusions. Our **inquiry-based** approach encourages exploration and resilience, helping students build both scientific understanding and confidence.

Science comes alive when it's connected to real, observable events—phenomena—that students can relate to and question.

Examples might include:

- Why does water collect on the outside of a cold glass?
- Why is a dark shirt warmer than a light shirt in the sun?
- Why does moss only grow on certain sides of trees?

By exploring questions like these, students engage in authentic learning experiences that are rooted in three-dimensional instruction:

- Science and Engineering Practices – how scientists investigate and solve problems
- Crosscutting Concepts – themes that connect different areas of science
- Disciplinary Core Ideas – foundational knowledge in physical, life, and earth sciences

This approach helps students not just learn science, but think like scientists. STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) is woven into the curriculum through engineering challenges, coding, data analysis, and technology-based solutions. Students work collaboratively on projects that require them to design, test, and improve their ideas using real-world tools and skills.

As students investigate and explore, they also build the academic language needed to discuss, explain, and present scientific ideas clearly. They'll develop confidence in using scientific vocabulary in both written and spoken formats, preparing them for high school and beyond. Through a balance of structure and discovery, our Science and STEM program equips students with the skills to wonder, investigate, and solve—and to see science not just as a subject, but as a way of understanding the world around them.



HEALTH & PE CURRICULUM

Junior high students will participate in Health and PE during their at-home days. Students will access course materials through Boost that are standards-aligned and written by our own CGA Curriculum Specialist.

Physical Education

Students will learn about BMI, eating healthy, positive self-talk, how to plan a nutritionally balanced meal, how to read labels, and explore online apps that support physical health and activity. Students will log exercise weekly.

Health

We use the Botvin LifeSkills Training Curriculum in conjunction with thoughtfully curated and developed materials written by our own Canyon Grove Academy Curriculum Specialist. Parents will have complete transparency and access to this curriculum in order to have important conversations with their students.

What is Botvin LifeSkills Training Junior High Program?

It is a research-based prevention program that helps students develop the skills they need to make healthy choices, resist peer pressure, and build strong personal and social skills. It's often part of a school's health or advisory curriculum.

Rather than focusing just on saying "no" to risky behaviors, Botvin teaches **why** and **how** students can make better choices for themselves in all areas of life.

The curriculum covers key areas in three main categories:

Personal Self-Management Skills

- Setting goals and making decisions
- Managing stress and anxiety
- Increasing self-esteem and confidence

Social Skills

- Effective communication
- Assertiveness and resisting peer pressure
- Conflict resolution and healthy relationships

Health and Prevention Skills

- Understanding the consequences of risky behaviors (like substance use)
- Developing refusal skills to avoid drugs, alcohol, and tobacco
- Media literacy and resisting negative influences

Why is it useful for junior high students?

Junior high is a time of rapid change—physically, emotionally, and socially. Students are forming their identities, navigating new social dynamics, and becoming more independent. The Botvin program is designed specifically for this age group and helps them:

- Make thoughtful decisions instead of reacting to peer pressure
- Build confidence in social situations
- Cope with stress in healthy ways
- Understand the long-term impact of risky behaviors

Botvin LST is evidence-based, with decades of research showing that this material reduces the likelihood of substance abuse, violence, and other risky behaviors. It is skill-focused and not about lecturing. Students learn practical skills that they can use right away. It is positive and empowering, focusing on what students can do and the strengths that they already have.



COLLEGE & CAREER AWARENESS

We will be using YouScience to support students in learning about College and Career. YouScience is a powerful online tool designed to help students discover their unique talents, interests, and potential career paths. It uses a series of engaging “brain games” (aptitude assessments) and interest surveys to give students personalized insight into how they think, learn, and what careers might be a great fit for them.

What will my student be doing?

Your student will complete:

Aptitude Assessments –

These are fun, game-like activities that measure how your student naturally thinks and solves problems.

Interest Surveys –

Students answer questions about what they enjoy, like working with people, solving problems, building things, etc.

The combination of these tools produces a detailed personal profile that shows: natural strengths (aptitudes), personal interests, and suggested careers that align with both. YouScience helps students to discover their strengths. Many students don’t realize what they’re good at until they see it in action. YouScience highlights skills like problem-solving, spatial reasoning, communication, and pattern recognition. YouScience helps students explore career pathways. It connects their natural talents and interests to real careers, including information on what those jobs are like, how much they pay, and what kind of education or training is needed. YouScience helps students to make informed choices. – Whether your student is thinking about high school electives, future college majors, or career options, YouScience gives them a meaningful, personalized starting point. Finally, YouScience helps students to build confidence. Seeing their unique abilities helps students feel more confident and motivated about their future.

After the assessment, students and parents receive an individualized report with career matches, strengths, and learning styles, tools to explore different industries and career fields, and guidance on types of high school courses or extracurriculars that support their goals.



DIGITAL LITERACY

Junior high students will learn digital literacy on the days that they are in person. Our digital literacy curriculum was written by our CGA Curriculum Specialist.

Digital Literacy is more than just knowing how to use a computer. It's about helping students become safe, responsible, and effective users of technology in school, at home, and in the future workplace.

In middle school, students are not only growing up in a digital world—they're preparing to use technology to solve problems, collaborate with others, and communicate ideas. The goal of Digital Literacy is to give students the knowledge and skills they need to thrive in a digital society.

The curriculum is organized around key areas: digital citizenship, technology operations and keyboarding, computational thinking and problem solving, information literacy, and communication and collaboration. The goal of the course materials is for students to be able to: stay safe online, communicate effectively, make smart choices about technology use, prepare for high school, college, and future careers, and become thoughtful, responsible digital citizens.



KEYBOARDING

Junior high students will be learning and practicing keyboarding. In today's digital world, keyboarding is a foundational skill—just like reading, writing, or basic math. Junior high is the perfect time to learn it well, before students begin typing longer assignments, research papers, emails, and even coding. Confident keyboarding skills build efficiency, support academic success, prepare students for high school, college, and careers, promote safe and responsible technology use, and support the development of other digital literacy skills.

SUPPLEMENTARY OR CURRICULUM OF CHOICE

As a junior high family, you do have the opportunity to select different English Language Arts and Math curricula. However, it is recommended that you try our recommended selections to start with. There will be an opportunity mid-summer to make a selection. Please watch for an email and a Google form to do this. Additionally, you are welcome to meet with Ms. Emily Andersen, Secondary School Director, to discuss. This is her calendar link to select a time: <https://calendar.app.google/DY213g1itsySf2ea6>

High School

High school only level classes are completed either by completing the curriculum written by CGA curriculum specialist or classes from the BYU Independent Study.

BYU Independent Study

Canyon Grove Secondary School is partnering with BYU Independent Study (BYU IS) to provide flexible, accredited online courses for students as part of our academic program. These courses will be used to supplement our curriculum in specific subject areas, offer expanded course options, and support students who need to recover credit in previously attempted classes.

Canyon Grove covers the full cost of these courses for eligible students.

This partnership allows students to:

- Work at their own pace within set timeframes

- Access high-quality online content and instruction
- Receive credit that counts toward high school graduation and college preparation
- Pre-assessments allow students to skip mastered units
- Courses are self-paced, with 120 days to complete
- Each course offers 0.5 high school credit

View the catalog of classes offered from BYU IS [HERE](#)

Concurrent Enrollment Classes

Concurrent Enrollment (CE) allows high school students to earn college credit through Utah Valley University (UVU) while still in high school. These courses are taught at a college level and can satisfy both high school and college graduation requirements at the same time.

How CE Classes Work:

Courses are offered in person at Canyon Grove Academy by approved teachers that are vetted and approved by both UVU and CGA, allowing students to earn credit for both college and high school.

- Students receive college credit (3 university credits) through UVU and high school credit (1 credit per class) for the same course.
- CE classes are typically available to 9-12 grade students, starting with one class in the 9th grade year and will increase as the student demonstrates the capacity to complete and pass these courses.
- Courses follow a semester schedule and require students to meet deadlines and expectations similar to college students **with CGA's competency-based curriculum, students are also able to learn from these classes and demonstrate improvement in the subject to earn credit, unlike other CE classes.**

Students must apply to UVU as a concurrent enrollment student and register for each class through UVU's CE portal. Instructions for application and registration are listed [HERE](#).

Benefits of CE:

- Save time and money by earning college credit early
- Get a head start on college-level coursework
- Build college readiness skills (time management, independence, academic writing, etc.)
- Credits are transferable to most colleges and universities in Utah and many outside the state

Learn more about UVU Concurrent Enrollment [HERE](#)

General Education Certificate (GEC)

The General Education Certificate (GEC) is a formal recognition awarded by UVU for students who complete all general education requirements typically needed for a college degree.

-What the GEC Includes:

- A full set of general education college credits (about 35 credits total)
- Courses in areas such as English, math, science, social science, and humanities
- All credits apply directly toward most associate's or bachelor's degrees

-Why It Matters:

- Students who earn the GEC have completed the first year of college while still in high school
- It's transferable to all public colleges and universities in Utah

- It can save thousands of dollars in tuition and reduce time to graduation

Canyon Grove Encouragement & Support

Canyon Grove encourages students who are interested in Concurrent Enrollment to consider working toward the General Education Certificate (GEC). While it is not required, completing the GEC can open doors academically and financially.

-Students will receive:

- Guidance on course selection to ensure credits count toward the GEC
- Support from counselors and staff throughout the registration and completion process
- Assistance with planning a CE schedule that fits with their high school graduation requirements

Mountainland Technical College (MTECH)

Canyon Grove Academy has also partnered with Mountainland Technical College (MTECH) to offer hands-on, career-focused training that prepares students for high-demand jobs in industries like health care, information technology, automotive, cosmetology, welding, and more. Programs are designed to be completed quickly and lead directly to employment or further education.

What MTECH Offers:

- CTE (Career and Technical Education) certificate programs across a wide variety of industries
- Hands-on learning in real-world labs and classroom environments
- Training taught by experienced professionals using industry-standard equipment
- Industry-recognized certificates that lead directly to employment

Explore all MTECH programs [HERE](#)

Canyon Grove's Partnership with MTECH

Canyon Grove Academy partners with MTECH to give high school students the opportunity to complete CTE certificate programs while still in high school. This partnership makes it easier and more affordable for students to gain valuable job skills before graduation.

Benefits for CGA Students:

- No tuition cost for CGA high school students enrolling in MTECH programs
- CGA will cover part of the cost of required program kits, which often include tools, uniforms, or equipment needed for training
- Students can earn certifications in fields such as medical assisting, welding, digital media, automotive, cosmetology, IT support, and more
- CTE programs count toward both high school credit and career preparation
- Helps students graduate with real-world experience and a competitive edge in the job market

Note: These certificates can be transferred to UVU to fill elective courses or other credits

More information about these transferable programs can be found [HERE](#) as well as direct transfer articulation lists from MTECH to UVU can be found [HERE](#).

Why Choose MTECH:

- Finish a certificate in less time than a traditional degree
- Graduate with job-ready skills and industry certification
- Explore careers and build a foundation for further college or training

- CGA encourages students interested in hands-on learning and career readiness to explore MTECH as part of their high school experience. Our team will support students through the application process and help align their coursework with graduation goals.

Note: Students can choose more than one option for education and can graduate with a diploma, GEC, and CTE certificate.

Electives

Friday in-person electives will vary and will be on the same semester schedule as your other classes. You can sign up for these electives when signing up for your other classes.

Locations will vary based on the elective and will be listed in [Boost](#) on your calendar.

Portfolio Credit

Portfolio credits may be awarded credits for classes taken outside of Canyon Grove that meet state course standards. These credits must be approved by administration before the process can begin. After approval, parents and students must work with the curriculum specialist, providing documentation of the class to show the course meets state standards for the subject.

[*Portfolio Credit Request Form](#)

Activities

Activities will generally be held twice a month at various locations. Please pay attention to your email for updates on activities. You can also view upcoming activities in [Boost](#) on your calendar. This will have all the RSVP links and information for the upcoming activities.

RSVP to all activities you plan on attending to allow us to make sure each activity is planned with the right number of students in mind and to make sure we know the students who are attending.

Travel: Travel to all activities is the responsibility of the parents or students unless otherwise noted. Please prepare travel for your student to and from the activities. There will not be supervision by staff before or after the set time of the activity, so please keep that in mind when planning your travel arrangements.

If you have suggestions for activities you would like CGA Secondary School to host, you can submit those ideas [HERE](#).