



ALEDO ISD BOARD MEETING TEMPLATE

MEETING DATE: January 19, 2015

AGENDA ITEM: Action Item EIC(LOCAL) Update

PRESENTER: Kathy Allen

ALIGNS TO BOARD PRIORITIES(S):

- Learning – The District will provide an aligned, rigorous curriculum, with instructional and technology programs preparing students to meet or exceed all educational standards.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

- TASB has recommended changes to this policy due to the addition of the Foundation Plan as a graduation option for students.
- At CONSISTENT APPLICATION OF GRADUATING CLASS, TASB recommended language to address the possibility that some students could graduate in the same cohort but under multiple graduation plans (Minimum, Recommended, Distinguished Achievement, Foundation, or Foundation with Distinguished Level of Achievement). Language requires that the same calculation method and rules be applied to determine class rank and honors.
- TASB also recommended our procedure for calculating failing grades be added to policy.
- Additional language included in this policy stipulates the district shall categorize and weight eligible courses and publish the information in District publications (i.e. AISD Course Handbook).
- At VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN - The foundation graduation program with distinguished level of achievement has been added to the section on local requirements in order to be eligible for Valedictorian and Salutatorian honors.
- At HIGHEST RANKING GRADUATE - Language has been added to the definition of highest ranking student to further clarify the highest ranking student must also meet local criteria in order to be designated as the valedictorian of a graduating class.

ADMINISTRATIVE CONSIDERATIONS: Consider approval of EIC(LOCAL)

FISCAL NOTE: None

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS: Administration recommends the Board approve EIC(LOCAL) as written and presented.

PROPOSED REVISIONS: 1-7-2014

	<p>Note: The following provisions shall apply to all students, regardless of their graduating class.</p>
CONSISTENT APPLICATION FOR GRADUATING CLASS	<p>The District shall apply the same class rank calculation method and rules for local graduation honors for all students in a graduating class, regardless of the school year in which a student first earned high school credit.</p>
CALCULATION	<p>The District shall include in the calculation of class rank semester grades earned in all high school credit courses regardless of when the credit was earned, unless excluded below.</p>
EXCLUSIONS	<p>The calculation shall include failing grades.</p> <p>The calculation of class rank shall exclude grades earned in or by physical education; athletics; drill team; credit recovery; credit by examination, with or without prior instruction; and a local credit course.</p> <p>In addition, the calculation of class rank shall exclude grades earned through the Texas Virtual School Network (TxVSN), distance learning (traditional correspondence courses), and dual credit courses.</p> <p>In addition, students from the Aledo Academic Alternative School shall not be ranked.</p>
WEIGHTED GRADE SYSTEM	<p>The District shall categorize and weight eligible courses as Advanced Placement, Pre-AP and Advanced, and Regular in accordance with provisions of this policy and as designated in appropriate District publications.</p>
CATEGORIES	
ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES	<p>Eligible Advanced Placement (AP) courses designated in the student handbook shall be categorized and weighted as AP courses.</p>
PRE-AP AND ADVANCED COURSES	<p>Eligible Pre-AP and Advanced courses designated as Pre-AP or Advanced courses in the student handbook shall be categorized and weighted as Pre-AP or Advanced courses.</p>
REGULAR COURSES	<p>All other eligible courses shall be categorized and weighted designated as Regular courses.</p>
WEIGHTED NUMERICAL GRADE AVERAGE	<p>The District shall assign weights to semester grades earned in eligible courses and shall calculate a weighted numerical grade average in accordance with the following scale:</p>

Category	Weight
AP	multiplied by 1.15
Pre-AP and Advanced	multiplied by 1.10
Regular	multiplied by 1

All failing grades shall be multiplied by 1.0.

The District shall record unweighted numerical grades on student transcripts.

TRANSFERRED
GRADES

When a student transfers **semester** grades for properly documented and eligible courses, the District shall assign weight to those grades based on the categories and grade weight system used by the District if similar or equivalent courses are offered to the same class of students in the District.

LOCAL GRADUATION
HONORS

For the purpose of determining honors to be conferred during graduation activities, the District shall calculate class rank using grades available at the time of calculation at the end of the fifth six-week grading period of the senior year. ~~The average of the fourth and fifth six-week grades shall be used as the semester grade for this purpose.~~

For the purpose of applications to institutions of higher education, the District shall also calculate class ranking as required by state law. The District's eligibility criteria for local graduation honors shall apply only for local recognitions and shall not restrict class ranking for the purpose of automatic admission under state law. [See EIC(LEGAL)]

VALEDICTORIAN
AND SALUTATORIAN

The valedictorian and salutatorian shall be the eligible students with the highest and second highest ranking, respectively. To be eligible for such recognition, a student must:

1. Have been continuously enrolled in the District high school for the two school years immediately preceding graduation;
2. Have completed the Recommended Program, ~~or~~ the Advanced/Distinguished Achievement Program, **or the foundation program with the distinguished level of achievement for graduation**; and

3. Be graduating after exactly eight semesters of enrollment in high school.

BREAKING TIES

In case of a tie in weighted numerical grade averages after calculation to the thousandths place, the District shall recognize all students involved in the tie as sharing the honor and title.

HONOR
GRADUATES

The District shall recognize at the graduation ceremony all students whose weighted numerical grade averages comprise the top ten percent of the students in the graduating class.

Beginning with the graduating class of 2018, the District shall recognize at the graduation ceremony all students whose weighted numerical grade averages comprise the top ten percent of the students in the graduating class and completed the foundation program with the distinguished level of achievement.

HIGHEST RANKING
GRADUATE

The student meeting the local eligibility criteria for recognition as the valedictorian shall also be considered the highest-ranking graduate for purposes of receiving the honor graduate certificate from the state of Texas.