



BELLVILLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Meeting of the BISD Board of Trustees

July 21, 2020

Subject:	EIC (Local) Academic Achievement and Class Rank Policy Update
Presenter:	Natalie Jones, Chief Academic Officer
Board Policy:	EIC (Local)
BISD Goal:	1. Develop and attain local standard for high levels of integrated learning and performance. [LEARNING]
Summary:	<p>In a previous meeting, action was taken to exclude foreign language courses in GPA calculation with entering ninth grade students in 2020-21 and beyond. This change is reflected in the proposed update.</p> <p>Bellville ISD is moving to nine-week grading periods rather than six-week grading periods, as reflected. It is proposed for local graduation honors the District shall calculate class rank using grades available at the time of calculation. For this purpose, second semester averages shall be computed using grades at the end of the third nine-week grading period and grades from the second progress report of the fourth nine-week grading period, including final grades for dual credit courses.</p>
Attachments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ EIC (Local) Proposed Policy Revision
Recommendation:	The recommendation is for the Board to: Consider updates to EIC (Local) Academic Achievement and Class Rank.

BELLVILLE BRAHMAS
LEARNERS TODAY. LEADERS TOMORROW.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
CLASS RANKING

EIC
(LOCAL)

Calculation

The District shall include in the calculation of class rank only grades earned for high school credit in the following subjects: English, mathematics, science, social studies, languages other than English, and Economics,

A student shall not be allowed to retake a course once credit has been earned in an effort to raise his or her grade or standing in class rank.

Entering ninth grade students in 2020-21 and beyond will not have foreign language courses included in GPA calculation.

Exclusions

The calculation of class rank shall exclude grades earned in or by credit by examination, with or without prior instruction, and summer school.

Weighted Grade System

The District shall categorize and weight courses as Advanced, Academic, and Regular in accordance with provisions of this policy.

Categories

Advanced Courses

Eligible AP, Pre-AP, and courses locally designated as advanced in the course selection guide shall be categorized and weighted as Advanced courses.

Academic Courses

Eligible courses locally designated as academic in the course selection guide shall be categorized and weighted as Academic courses.

Regular Courses

All other eligible courses shall be designated as Regular courses.

Weighted Grade Point Average (GPA)

The District shall convert semester grades to grade points in accordance with the weighted grade point chart published in the course selection guide and shall calculate a weighted GPA.

Transferred Grades

When a student transfers grades for properly documented 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~~ rank 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 using grades available at the time of calculation. For this purpose, second semester averages shall be computed using grades at the end of the third nine-week grading period and grades from the second progress report of the fourth nine-week grading period, including final grades for dual credit courses.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
CLASS RANKING

EIC
(LOCAL)

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 four semesters immediately preceding graduation;
2. Have completed the Recommended Program or the Advanced/Distinguished Achievement Program for graduation; and
3. Be graduating after exactly eight semesters of enrollment in high school.

Breaking Ties

In case of a tie in weighted GPAs, the District shall compute the weighted GPA using advanced level courses only.

If the tie is not broken after applying this method, the District shall recognize all students involved in the tie as sharing the honor and title.