

PROPOSED REVISIONS: 4.10.2024

**Consistent
Application for
Graduating Class**

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.

Calculation

The District shall include in the calculation of class rank semester grades earned in high school credit courses taken in grades 9-12 only, unless excluded below.

The class rank calculation shall not include semester grades from a course that is retaken after a passing grade has been earned.

The calculation shall include failing grades.

Exclusions

The calculation of class rank shall exclude grades earned in or through physical education; athletics; band; choir; art; dance; theatre; cheerleading; PALS; driver's education; any local credit course that does not carry state graduation credit; student leadership; independent study; credit recovery; any course for which a pass/fail grade is assigned; credit by examination, with or without prior instruction; any private or commercially sponsored physical activity program used for physical education; any fine arts credit course in a community-based fine arts program; and grades earned through any non-state accredited distance learning program.

**Weighted Grade
System**

Categories

The District shall categorize and weight eligible courses as Advanced Placement (AP), Dual Credit, Honors, and Regular in accordance with provisions of this policy and as designated in appropriate District publications.

AP Courses

Eligible AP courses ~~designated in the student handbook~~ shall be categorized and weighted as AP courses.

**Dual Credit
Courses**

Eligible dual credit courses ~~designated in the student handbook~~ shall be categorized and weighted as Dual Credit courses.

Honors Courses

Eligible Honors courses ~~designated in the student handbook~~ shall be categorized and weighted as Honors courses.

**Regular
Courses**

All other eligible courses shall be designated as Regular courses.

**Weighted Numerical
Grade Average**

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:

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Category	Weight
AP courses	Multiplied by 1.17
Dual Credit courses*	Multiplied by 1.17
Honors courses	Multiplied by 1.15
Regular courses	Multiplied by 1.0

*A grade of D in a dual credit course shall receive high school credit, and the grade shall be converted to a 73 for purposes of calculating class rank.

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 courses that would be eligible under the Regular category and the District has accepted the credit, the District shall include the grades in the calculation of class rank.

When a student transfers semester grades for courses that would be eligible to receive additional weight under the District's weighted grade system, the District shall assign additional weight to the grades based on the categories and grade weight system used by the District.

Local Graduation Honors

For the purpose of determining honors to be conferred during graduation activities, the District shall calculate class rank in accordance with this policy and administrative regulations by using grades available at the time of calculation at the end of the fifth six-week grading period of the senior year.

For the purpose of applications to institutions of higher education, the District shall also calculate class rank 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 rank 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 rank, respectively. To be eligible for such recognition, a student must:

1. Have been continuously enrolled in a District high school for the four school years immediately preceding graduation;

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2. Have completed the foundation program with the distinguished level of achievement; and
3. Be graduating after exactly eight semesters of enrollment in high school.

Ties

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

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.