

Purpose

The purpose of the District's class rank policy is to promote rigorous academic standards and readiness for college, career, and life in a globally competitive economy. Class rank shall be used to determine District honors and awards and will not be submitted to colleges unless otherwise addressed in this policy.

**High School Grade
Class Rank**

For students in the graduating classes of 2021, 2022, and 2023, the District shall include in the calculation of class rank semester grades earned in all high school credit courses taken at any grade level, unless otherwise stated in this policy.

For students in the graduating class of 2024 and beyond, the District shall include in the calculation of **class rank** only semester grades earned in high school credit courses taken at any grade level in the following subjects:

- 8 semesters of English Language Arts
- 8 semesters of Mathematics
- 8 semesters of Science
- 8 semesters of Social Studies
- 4 semesters of Languages other than English (all semesters must be in the same language)

If a student completes more than the number of credits listed within the categories listed above, the student's weighted GPA used for class rank shall be calculated using the grades within each category with the highest grade point value. However, the courses required for graduation, as noted in the Program of Study, will take precedence over other classes and be included in the calculation of GPA and class rank.

**Weighted Grade
System**

For students in the graduating class of 2024 and beyond, the District shall categorize and weight courses as:

- Honors;
- Pre-AP;
- AP; and
- Dual Credit

Eligible Honors, Pre-AP, AP, and dual credit courses shall be designated in the District Program of Study.

The District shall convert grade points in accordance with the weighted grade point chart published in EIC(EXHIBIT) and shall calculate a weighted GPA.

Grades earned in the following courses shall be excluded when calculating the weighted academic class rank:

1. Credit recovery courses
2. Homeschool courses
3. Pass/fail courses
4. Audited courses or courses not taken for credit
5. Courses taken in foreign countries with the exception of courses taken at the U.S. Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) schools.

Career and
Technical Education
Courses

Career and technical education (CTE) courses that receive 2 or 3 credits per year shall be included in the semester average two or three times, as appropriate.

Transfer Students

Transfer students or other students who have grades recorded based on letters instead of numerals shall have such grades converted to numbers according to the official grading policy of the school from which the grades were received. A transfer student whose grades were recorded by letters may request specific numerical scores from his or her former school. Such a request shall be the responsibility of the student. The reporting of specific numerical grades to the high school must be by school to school, either on an official transcript document. If such policies are not clearly stated, then a student shall receive the following conversion grades:

A+ = 98	B+ = 88	C+ = 78	F- = Below 70
A = 95	B = 85	C = 75	
A- = 90	B- = 80	C- = 70	

**Course
Determination**

Regular, Honors, and AP/Concurrent courses shall be determined annually by the Board and noted in the Program of Study.

**Valedictorian and
Salutarian**

Two members of each graduating class shall be honored as valedictorian and salutarian. The following selection guidelines shall apply:

1. The valedictorian shall be the graduate with the highest grade point average (GPA) who has met all related criteria.
2. The salutarian shall be the graduate with the second highest GPA who has met all related criteria.
3. A student shall complete the last four consecutive semesters on the campus from which he or she graduates in the District in order to compete for scholastic honors.
4. In case of a tie in weighted grade averages among the top ranking students, the following methods shall be used to determine who shall be recognized:
 - a. The weighted GPA shall be computed to the maximum number of decimal places until the tie is broken;
 - b. If a tie still remains, the student with the highest numerical grade average of all Honors, Pre-AP, AP, and Dual Credit, courses taken shall be designated.

Other Recognitions

The District shall recognize at the graduation ceremony the students in the graduating class with the 12 highest class ranks, including valedictorian and salutarian, who completed the last two consecutive semesters in the District.

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)]

**Highest-Ranking
Graduate**

The graduate with the highest cumulative GPA shall be designated as the highest-ranking graduate. In case of a tie, all those tying shall be recognized.

Honor Graduates

Students who graduate with a cumulative GPA of 4.70 - 6.00 or higher shall be designated summa cum laude graduates.

Students entering the ninth grade in the fall of 2016 who graduate with a cumulative GPA of 4.25 - 4.69 shall be designated magna cum laude graduates.

Students who graduate with a cumulative GPA of 3.70 – 4.24 shall be designated cum laude graduates.

Class Rank and GPA

The Class Rank shall be determined at the end of the next to last marking period of prior to graduation of the school year during which graduation occurs. The date for averaging shall be announced by the high school principal several days in advance. Grade point weights shall be earned each semester based upon the student's official transcript.

The student's GPA shall be calculated by dividing the sum total of all grade point weights by the total number of credits for which final grades were given. Computations shall be carried out to two decimal places without rounding. The GPA will be calculated based on EIC (LEGAL) to determine automatic admission into universities.

For Collegiate Early College High School, a student's class rank shall not be automatically reported, except for the top ten percent of a given class. Class rank shall not appear on any student's academic achievement record (transcript). The District shall provide to each student in the top ten percent of his or her class, and any other student who requests it, a certification of class rank containing the student's numerical rank in class.

Early Graduates

A student who completes the high school program requirements in fewer than four years shall be ranked in the class with which he or she actually graduates and shall be eligible for all honors including, but not limited to, valedictorian, salutatorian, highest-ranking graduate, and honor graduate.

In the event that an early graduate earns valedictorian honors, the early graduate shall be designated as valedictorian, and the four-year graduate who would have been valedictorian shall be designated as covaldictorian. In the event that an early graduate earns salutatorian honors, the early graduate shall be designated as salutatorian, and the four-year graduate who would have been salutatorian shall be designated as cosalutatorian.