

SELECTION OF
HONOR
GRADUATES

The Board shall constantly encourage the academic excellence of students, and those students exhibiting outstanding scholarship shall be recognized.

VALEDICTORIAN
/
SALUTATORIAN

A valedictorian and a salutatorian shall be selected from each graduating class in each regular high school. The following provisions shall govern the selection of the valedictorian and salutatorian, and other honor students: Class ranking shall be determined by averaging numerical course grades, without conversion to grade points. For class ranking purposes only, semester grades earned in state-approved courses designated as ~~advanced or honors~~ **weighted, Pre-AP or AP** shall be averaged according to the following scale:

Note: The category of "Weighted" grades will be eliminated beginning in the fall of 2007.

	Recorded Grade	Advanced /Weighted	Honors/Pre-AP / AP
	100	105	110
	99	104	109
	98	103	108
	97	102	107
	etc.	etc.	etc.

All classes other than those designated as ~~advanced or honors~~ **weighted, Pre-AP, or AP** shall be calculated with no weighting.

TRANSFER
STUDENTS

Should information on transfer students indicate that letter grades were awarded on ranges other than ten points for each letter grade (e.g., a seven-point range), the conversion shall be performed using the midpoint of the applicable numerical range for the letter grade.

The following scale shall be used to convert grades of students transferring into the District with letter grades:

	A+	_____	97-100
	A	_____	94-96
	A-	_____	90-93
	B+	_____	87-89
	B	_____	84-86

	B-	_____	80-83
	C+	_____	77-79
	C	_____	74-76
	C-	_____	70-73
	Failing- Below 70		

Transfer students whose grades were recorded by letters may request specific numerical scores from their former school(s). Such a request shall be the responsibility of the student. The reporting of specific numerical grades to the high school must be school to school, either on an official transcript document or school letterhead stationary.

CLASS RANKING To determine class ranking, the grade points or numerical grades earned by a student each semester in grades 9-12 shall be added together, and then divided by the number of semester courses taken. Approved high school courses taken in middle school for graduation credit shall be calculated in the same manner as courses completed in grades 9-12. The resulting number, carried to three decimal places, shall be the student's grade point average (GPA) or grade average (GA). Local credit courses shall not be included in the computation of class rank.

~~Students' GPAs/GAs shall be ranked at the end of the first nine-week period for fall graduates, and the third nine-week period of the senior year for spring graduates to determine the valedictorian and salutatorian.~~

Fall Graduates:

- **For the purpose of honors at graduation, rank based on GPA at the end of the first marking period is used. Fall graduates who rank in the top 15% of the senior class are recognized during the fall graduation ceremony.**
- **For the purpose of final GPA, grades are calculated through the second marking period.**
- **Fall graduates are ranked based in their current GPA after the second marking period as a part of the total class.**

Spring Graduates:

- **Graduates are ranked a final time at the end of the third marking period. Fall graduates are included in the number in class in order to maintain accurate rankings.**
- **For the purpose of honors at spring graduation, the third marking period rank is used.**
- **Rank is frozen for all graduates at the end of the third marking period.**
- **For the purpose of the final GPA, grades are calculated through the final marking period.**

To be eligible for valedictorian or salutatorian honors, a student shall have been enrolled in the same District high school for the entire two terms prior to graduation. A term is equivalent to 18 weeks. The top two students, whether fall or spring graduates, shall be declared valedictorian and salutatorian. If a tie occurs, co-valedictorians or co-salutatorians shall be declared.

All students ranking in the top 15 percent of the graduating class at the end of the first nine-week period for fall graduates, and the third nine-week period of the senior year for spring graduates, shall be designated as honor graduates for the school year and shall be recognized at spring graduation. Among honor graduates, the top ten highest-ranked students shall be recognized as graduating with highest honors, regardless of whether the students are fall or spring graduates.

~~The GPA at the end of the first nine-week period for December graduates and the third nine-week period for spring graduates shall determine final class rank. GPA shall be calculated at the end of the second nine-week period for December graduates and at the end of the fourth nine-week period for spring graduates for the purpose of reporting a final GPA.~~

Transfer students shall receive ~~honors~~ **weighted** grade credit and point values based on the same standards and policies that govern students who complete equivalent courses in the District. Transfer students shall not receive additional grade point value for advanced ~~or honors~~ courses taken outside the District for which an equivalent course was not available in the District to a student at the point of transfer.

Grades from college courses (taken with the approval of the principal to earn credit toward graduation), correspondence courses, credit by examination with prior instruction, and credit by examination without prior instruction shall be included in determining grade point average. A college course with more demanding requirements than the course level offered in the District high school and for which a similar course exists in State Board rules shall receive ~~honors~~ **weighted** grade points, but shall not be designated as an ~~honors~~ **advanced** course on the academic achievement record. Approval to receive ~~honors~~ **weighted** grade points must be received from the principal prior to enrolling in the course.

GRADE
SCALE

The following scale shall be used to determine letter-grade equivalents:

	A	=====	100-90
	B	=====	80-89
	C	=====	70-79
	Failing	=====	Below 70