



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT AGENDA ACTION ITEM

TOPIC First Reading of Policy EIC (LOCAL): Academic Achievement Class Ranking

SUBMITTED BY: Gloria S. Rendon **OF:** Office of the Superintendent

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SCHOOL BOARD: _____

DATE ASSIGNED FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION: July 20, 2011

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Trustees approve Policy EIC (LOCAL) – Academic Achievement: Class Ranking. Implementation of the STAAR Program will have an impact on this policy. Two key EOC assessment concepts have significant policy implications for districts in the areas of course credit, grading and class rank.

- First, districts are required to have local board policy stating that an EOC assessment score counts as 15 percent of the final course grade.
- Second a student is permitted to retake an EOC assessment for any reason at any of the scheduled testing administrations, with the district determining whether to count the retake score as 15 percent of the final course grade.

Attached please find the revisions submitted to TASB from which our new policy will be drafted.

RATIONALE:

BUDGETARY INFORMATION

BOARD POLICY REFERENCE AND COMPLIANCE:

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
CLASS RANKING

EIC
(LOCAL)

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| CLASS RANK | <p>Class ranking shall be determined by averaging all grades earned in high school from courses listed in the State Board rules through the end of the third quarter of the senior year. Resource classes and courses approved for local credit, other than college-prep courses, shall not be included in the calculation for ranking.</p> <p>Beginning with the students who entered grade 8 in the 2008–09 school year, class ranking shall be determined by averaging all grades taken for high school credit through the third quarter of the senior year. The grade point average (GPA) shall be computed in accordance with this policy and shall be carried out to the fifth decimal place and rounded off to the fourth decimal place.</p> |
| VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN | <p>The valedictorian and salutatorian shall be the eligible seniors with the highest and second highest grade point average carried out to the fifth decimal place and rounded off to the fourth decimal place and who have completed the Recommended Program or the Advanced/Distinguished Achievement Program. A student must have been continuously enrolled in the same District high school for the six semesters preceding graduation to be eligible for this honor.</p> |
| TIE | <p>Should a tie develop for valedictorian, the student with the highest GPA when carried out to the sixth decimal place shall be named valedictorian.</p> |
| CONDUCT | <p>To qualify to give the valedictorian or salutatorian speech, a student shall not have engaged in any serious misconduct violation of the Student Code of Conduct, including removal to a DAEP, a three-day suspension, or expulsion during his or her last two semesters.</p> |
| TOP TEN | <p>A student must graduate under the Recommended Program or the Advanced/Distinguished Achievement Program to be eligible for recognition as a top ten graduate.</p> |
| TOP TEN PERCENT | <p>All students whose grade point averages comprise the top ten percent of the graduating class and qualify for automatic admission under Education Code 51.803 shall be recognized. Eligibility standards required for the local procedure for determining valedictorian and salutatorian (or other local honor positions) shall not apply to the procedure for determining the top ten percent. The GPA shall be reported on the student's transcript as required by TEA and made available in accordance with the application deadline when requested by the student. [See EIC(LEGAL)]</p> |
| EARLY GRADUATES | <p>To be eligible to graduate early, a student shall complete all coursework and exit-level testing required of the ninth grade class in which he or she begins high school.</p> |

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
CLASS RANKING

EIC
(LOCAL)

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.

GRADES
TRANSFERRED FROM
OTHER DISTRICTS

All high school TEA-approved state credit grades transferred as numerical averages shall be accepted at face value. Grades transferred as passing or failing shall either be accepted or not accepted for credit, as indicated on the transcript, but shall not be calculated into class ranking unless there is some accompanying explanatory information on the transcript. [See EIA]

Beginning with the students who entered grade 8 in the 2008–09 school year, a student who transfers into a District high school shall receive similar credits counted toward the GPA according to the list of courses offered in the District. Grades that earned weight in another district shall be given the weight as outlined in this policy.

Students transferring into the District shall receive the numerical grade that was earned in the courses at another school. Letter grades shall be recorded as follows:

Conversion Scale

| | | | |
|----|----|----|----|
| A+ | 98 | C+ | 78 |
| A | 95 | C | 75 |
| A- | 92 | C- | 72 |
| B+ | 88 | D+ | 68 |
| B | 85 | D | 65 |
| B- | 82 | D- | 62 |
| | | F | 60 |

Grades from nonaccredited schools and homeschooling grades shall not be used to determine a student's grade point average for class ranking. Awarding of credits for students who were homeschooled shall be based on mastery of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) as outlined in the administrative guidelines for placement and awarding of credit for homeschooled students.

WEIGHTED GRADE
SCALE

All high school courses listed in the State Board rules for curriculum shall receive grades according to the table below. Resource classes and courses approved for local credit only (except college-prep classes) shall not be included for ranking purposes for those students who entered grade 9 prior to the 2009–10 school year.

Pre-Advanced Placement (Pre-AP) courses and Advanced Placement (AP) courses are nationally recognized for their high level of

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
CLASS RANKING

EIC
(LOCAL)

curriculum. The list of courses offered by the District and the assigned grade points for each course in these categories shall be listed in administrative guidelines.

GRADE 8 BEFORE
2008-09

All students who entered grade 8 prior to the 2008-09 school year shall have identified courses weighted according to the chart below:

| Nonweighted | Weighted |
|-------------|----------|
| 100 | 110 |
| 99 | 109 |
| 98 | 108 |
| 97 | 107 |
| 96 | 106 |
| 95 | 105 |
| 94 | 104 |
| 93 | 103 |
| 92 | 102 |
| 91 | 101 |
| 90 | 100 |
| 89 | 99 |
| 88 | 98 |
| 87 | 97 |
| 86 | 96 |
| 85 | 95 |
| 84 | 94 |
| 83 | 93 |
| 82 | 92 |
| 81 | 91 |
| 80 | 90 |
| 79 | 89 |
| 78 | 88 |
| 77 | 87 |
| 76 | 86 |
| 75 | 85 |
| 74 | 84 |
| 73 | 83 |
| 72 | 82 |
| 71 | 81 |
| 70 | 80 |

The minimum course grade must be a 70 to receive a weight of +10 points.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
CLASS RANKING

EIC
(LOCAL)

GRADE 8 IN 2008-09
AND THEREAFTER

Beginning with the students who entered grade 8 in the 2008-09 school year, for the purposes of class rank, students shall be ranked using a weighted 4.0 scale.

Advanced courses shall earn weighted credit according to the chart below and shall include AP, Pre-AP, dual credit, and other Board-approved courses, including those listed above. Advanced courses are those in which the TEKS are comprehensive and enriched, resulting in an academically rigorous curriculum.

Regular courses are those courses that provide a demanding curriculum in an array of offerings based on the TEKS.

Modified courses are those courses with a state course code that begins with the number nine and are designed to provide significant modifications to the TEKS through a student's individualized education program (IEP).

The following chart shall apply:

| Numerical Grade | AP Test Score of 3, 4, or 5 | AP, Pre-AP, Dual Credit, or other Board-approved courses | Regular Courses | Modified Courses |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|--|-----------------|------------------|
| 98-100 | 5.0 | 4.5 | 4.0 | 3.5 |
| 96-97 | 4.9 | 4.4 | 3.9 | 3.4 |
| 93-95 | 4.7 | 4.2 | 3.7 | 3.2 |
| 90-92 | 4.5 | 4.0 | 3.5 | 3.0 |
| 88-89 | 4.3 | 3.8 | 3.3 | 2.8 |
| 86-87 | 4.1 | 3.6 | 3.1 | 2.6 |
| 83-85 | 4.0 | 3.5 | 3.0 | 2.5 |
| 80-82 | 3.9 | 3.4 | 2.9 | 2.4 |
| 78-79 | 3.7 | 3.2 | 2.7 | 2.2 |
| 76-77 | 3.5 | 3.0 | 2.5 | 2.0 |
| 73-75 | 3.3 | 2.8 | 2.3 | 1.8 |
| 70-72 | 3.0 | 2.5 | 2.0 | 1.5 |
| Below 70 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |