

CLASS RANK

In ranking students, including Valedictorian ([highest ranking student](#)) and Salutatorian ([2nd highest ranking student](#)), all semester grades shall be converted to the specified grade point, and then the grade point average (GPA) shall be computed.

RANKING /
[GRADUATION CLASS OF 2014 THROUGH 2017 SCHOOL YEAR](#)

Beginning with the graduating class of 2014, the GPA shall be used to determine class rank as follows:

1. Grades for seniors attaining highest honors including the top ten students shall be averaged no earlier than ten days and no later than five days prior to the graduation date for the purpose of naming the Valedictorian, Salutatorian, and the top ten students.
2. [An early graduate may be given an unofficial ranking until final completion of graduation requirements and the issuance of final rankings for the class.](#)
3. Ties in GPAs shall be awarded the same class rank, with the exception of Valedictorian and Salutatorian.

VALEDICTORIAN AND
SALUTATORIAN /
[GRADUATION CLASS OF 2014 THROUGH 2017](#)

Beginning with the graduating class of 2014, grades earned for each course in grades 9–12 shall be utilized in determining a candidate's eligibility for Valedictorian or Salutatorian for overall class ranking.

The following guidelines shall apply:

1. The student with the highest GPA shall be the Valedictorian, and the student with the second highest GPA shall be the Salutatorian. All other students shall be ranked in descending order to determine final class ranking.
2. [Except as otherwise permitted by this policy, students shall have been enrolled and shall have completed their sophomore, junior, and senior years in the District in order to be eligible for highest honors \(Valedictorian and Salutatorian\).](#)
3. [Students who have completed 2 consecutive years of study at the District's high school and who have completed all state graduation requirements within 3 or 3½ years shall also be considered for highest honors for their graduating class upon final completion of graduation requirements for the current graduating class and the issuance of final rankings for the class.](#)
4. Students shall have met all requirements under the Advanced/Distinguished Achievement Program.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
CLASS RANKING

EIC
(LOCAL)

5. Beginning with the graduating class of 2014, graduates shall have successfully completed four Advanced Placement (AP) or Pre-AP courses.
6. In case of a tie for Valedictorian or Salutatorian, each student's highest semester averages from four approved Pre-AP or AP courses shall be averaged together to determine ranking of Valedictorian or Salutatorian.

POINT VALUE /
GRADUATING CLASS
OF 2014 THROUGH
2017 SCHOOL YEAR

The actual point value for each semester grade shall be based on the semester average in that course. No points shall be counted for a failing semester average a course – i.e., for an average less than 70, but the course shall be counted when the points are added and averaged for the semester GPA.

The points earned for each semester grade shall be added. This total shall be divided by the total number of semester grades including any failing grades. The four GPAs for the four years shall be added and divided by four to achieve a four-year grade point average.

In the case of students losing credit due to nonattendance at class, no points shall be given for courses attempted; however, the course shall be added when dividing the total number of semester grades.

SCHOOL YEAR
2017-2018 AND
THEREAFTER

Beginning with the graduating class of 2018 and beyond, until such time as a new process is adopted by the Board, the following policy will be used to determine class ranking and eligibility for the honor of being chosen Valedictorian and Salutatorian:

Students shall be ranked within the graduating class based upon a weighted grade point average (GPA).

WEIGHTED
GRADE POINT
AVERAGE

For the purpose of encouraging students to take more challenging courses, grades earned in TEA- and District-identified advanced courses, Languages Other Than English (LOTE) courses, articulated Tech-Prep courses, and dual credit courses at designated colleges or universities will be weighted. The grades earned in these courses will be converted to a higher value than the values given for general education and prescribed courses. Weighted grade points will be used to compute the grade point average (GPA) to determine a student's honor roll status, rank in class, and status of Valedictorian and Salutatorian.

CLASS RANK /
CLASS SIZE

For purposes of determining class rank, class size will be determined by the sum of all inactive grade 12 students who have withdrawn from the District prior to the end of the given school year and who have completed all coursework and exit-level assess-

NOTE: Some in the office think that it is unfair to require 3 years here but only require 2 years for early completion, albeit 2 consecutive years.

ments, combined with all active grade 12 students at the end of the sixth six-week grading period for that same school year.

Ranking shall be assessed at the mid-point of each academic year and again at the conclusion of the fifth six weeks during the last semester of the school year.

RANKING OF TOP
10% AND 25%

All students who have completed 3 years of study at the District's high school will be eligible to be ranked in the top 10 percent and top 25 percent of the graduation class if other applicable requirements of this policy are met.

DISTINGUISHED
ACHIEVEMENT
REQUIRED

Students must have met all requirements of a high school personal graduation plan that includes the Distinguished Level of Achievement under the state's Foundation School Program and includes one or more endorsements to enable the student to achieve a class rank in the top 10 percent for students at the District's high school

EARLY
COMPLETION
OF GRADUA-
TION PROGRAM

District students who have completed all state graduation requirements within 3 or 3½ years may be considered for top 10 percent and top 25 percent ranking of the current graduating class and for the honor of the status of Valedictorian and Salutatorian, provided they have attended the District's high school for at least 2 consecutive years prior to graduation and other applicable requirements of this policy are met.

District students who have completed their high school program early will be given an unofficial ranking until an official ranking is provided upon final completion of graduation requirements for the current graduating class and the issuance of final rankings for the class.

VALEDICTORIAN /
SALUTATORIAN

Valedictorian and Salutatorian honors shall be determined upon completion of the fifth six-week grading period immediately prior to graduation.

The student with the highest grade point average (GPA) under this policy will receive the honor of Valedictorian; and the student with the second highest GPA under this policy will receive the honor of Salutatorian. All other students shall be ranked in descending order to determine final class ranking under this policy.

Ties shall be broken in accordance with the tie-breaking provisions of this policy

Students who have completed 2 consecutive years of study at the District's high school and who have completed all state graduation requirements within 3 or 3½ years shall also be considered for

STUDENTS IN
DAEP

highest honors for their graduating class if all other requirements of this policy are met.

Students placed in a District alternative education program (DAEP) during their senior year shall not be eligible to be the Valedictorian or Salutatorian of the graduation class.

[ALTERNATE DAEP CLAUSE: "Students placed in a District alternative education program (DAEP) during their senior year may become ineligible for the honor of Valedictorian or Salutatorian of the graduation class, the determination of which shall be based on a case by case basis and require extraordinary circumstances to permit further consideration for a DAEP-placed student to receive such honor."]

CALCULATIONS
OF GPA

Final grade point averages shall be calculated by the counselor and principal at least 5 working days before the end of the school year. All final grade point averages for the top-ranking students will be reviewed by the Superintendent for final verification.

Class rankings for 9th, 10th, and 11th grade students will be calculated at the end of each semester and will be made available at the beginning of the following semester. Senior class rankings will be calculated again at the end of the first semester for scholarship purposes.

Grades earned in the following programs shall not be used to determine class rank:

1. Remedial summer school programs;
2. Credit by examination;
3. Correspondence courses;
4. Local credit;
5. Independent study as assigned by the principal or counselor;
6. Any non-traditional computer-based software program course; and
7. Grades earned in a non-accredited private school.

Students and parents are encouraged to contact the counselor for information about applications and deadlines for admissions to four-year public universities and colleges in Texas.

WEIGHTED
GRADING
SCALE

The following scale will be used to compute numerical grades into the mathematically computed score that is used to determine honor roll status, GPA, and rank in class:

I have incorporated your requested language here; however, this is different from the clause that requires that grades be calculated at the end of the 5th sixth week period. What happens if this changes who the Valedictorian or Salutatorian is? Is that okay? I need to know when the Valedictorian and Salutatorian will be decided. Will it be the grades calculated at the end of the 5th sixth weeks or the final calculation of the GPA under this clause? Either way, I think I should clarify this issue once you give me your answer.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
CLASS RANKING

EIC
(LOCAL)

1. Tier I: Advanced Level Courses;
2. Tier II: General Education Courses; and
3. Tier III: Prescribed Courses

<u>NUMERICAL GRADE</u>	<u>TIER I (5.0 Scale)</u>	<u>TIER II (4.0 Scale)</u>	<u>TIER III (3.0 Scale)</u>
100	5.0	4.0	3.0
99	4.9	3.9	2.9
98	4.8	3.8	2.8
97	4.7	3.7	2.7
96	4.6	3.6	2.6
95	4.5	3.5	2.55
94	4.4	3.4	2.5
93	4.3	3.3	2.4
92	4.2	3.2	2.3
91	4.1	3.1	2.2
90	4.0	3.0	2.15
89	3.9	2.9	2.1
88	3.8	2.8	2.0
87	3.7	2.7	1.9
86	3.6	2.6	1.8
85	3.5	2.5	1.7
84	3.4	2.4	1.6
83	3.3	2.3	1.55
82	3.2	3.3	1.5
81	3.1	2.1	1.4
80	3.0	2.0	1.3
79	2.9	1.9	1.2
78	2.8	1.8	1.15
77	2.7	1.7	1.1
76	2.6	1.6	1.0
75	2.5	1.5	0.9
74	2.4	1.4	0.8

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
CLASS RANKING

EIC
(LOCAL)

73	2.3	1.3	0.7
72	2.2	1.2	0.6
71.	2.1	1.1	0.55
70	2.0	1.0	0.5
Below 70	0	0	0

The end-of-semester numerical grade will be recorded on the student's permanent record (transcript), including grades for high school courses completed at the middle school level

ADVANCED-
LEVEL
COURSES

Tier I courses will include

GENERAL
EDUCATION
COURSES

Tier II courses will include general education grade-level Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) courses and grade-level courses completed with limited modifications that do not impact state-mandated exit-level testing readiness.

PRESCRIBED
COURSES

Tier III will include locally developed modified TEKS courses, exit-level state assessment tutorial courses, and student aide courses.

BREAKING
TIES

In the event of a tie for the honor of Valedictorian and/or Salutatorian, and/or for a determination of the ranking of the top 10 percent of the graduation class, the following rules shall be applied in the following order until the tie is broken:

1. The student with the most college courses completed successfully (i.e., passing grade) regardless of GPA shall win; or
2. The student with the most Advanced Placement courses completed successfully regardless of GPA shall win; or
3. The student with the most math and science courses successfully taken beyond the state requirements regardless of GPA shall win.