

No. _____



UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT AGENDA ACTION ITEM

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

SUBMITTED BY: _____ Gloria S. Rendon _____ **OF:** _____ Asst. to the Superintendent _____

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SCHOOL BOARD: _____ June 17, 2009 _____

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Trustees First Reading of Policy EIC (LOCAL): Academic Achievement – Class Ranking

RATIONALE:

BUDGETARY INFORMATION

BOARD POLICY REFERENCE AND COMPLIANCE:

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 entering 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 rounded to the nearest thousandth. Grades transferred from other schools shall be credited in conformity with the course descriptions approved for the established grading system.</p>
TOP TEN	<p>Students must graduate on the state’s Recommended High School Program or Distinguished Achievement High School Program to be eligible for top ten percent graduates.</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 who complete the recommended Program or the Distinguished Achievement Program. A student must have been continuously enrolled in the District attended the same high school for the three years preceding graduation and received all grades during the last year there to be eligible for this honor.</p> <p>Beginning with the students graduating in the 2011–12 school year, the valedictorian and salutatorian shall be the eligible students with the highest and second highest ranking as determined by the District’s class ranking procedure described in this policy and who complete the Recommended Program or the Advanced/Distinguished Achievement Program. To be eligible, a student must also have been continuously enrolled in the District high school for the four semesters preceding graduation.</p>
TIE	<p>Should a tie develop for valedictorian, the student with the highest GPA when carried out to the fifth sixth decimal place shall be named valedictorian. Should a tie still remain, co-valedictorians shall be declared, and no salutatorian shall be recognized. Should a tie develop for salutatorian, the same procedure for breaking a tie for valedictorian shall be followed. Should a tie still remain, all students who tie shall be recognized.</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 PERCENT

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)]

EARLY GRADUATES

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.

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

Grades transferred as numerical averages shall be accepted at face value. Grades transferred as passing or failing shall be accepted for credit, or none, 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 enter 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 and the grade point scale used for credit earned in the District. **Grades that earned weight at another district will 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		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

WEIGHTED GRADING
SYSTEM

Beginning with the 1999–2000 school year, 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.

Weighted courses shall be the following:

All Pre-Advanced Placement

All Advanced Placement

All IB

All Gifted and Talented

College Prep (local)

Others could be “selected” for weight by the faculty and administration with final approval by the Board.

All teachers shall be informed of the weighted policy to ensure accurate reporting for honor roll purposes.

Non-weighted	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

Non-weighted	Weighted
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.

Beginning with students entering grade 8 in the 2008–09 school year, for the purposes of class rank, all Pre-Advanced Placement courses, dual college credit courses, and approved weighted courses that are not Advanced Placement shall receive weighted grades according to the table below.

Non-weighted	Weighted
100	105
99	104
98	103
97	102
96	101
95	100
94	99
93	98
92	97
91	96
90	95
89	94
88	93
87	92
86	91
85	90
84	89
83	88
82	87
81	86

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
CLASS RANKING

REVISED PROPOSED POLICY

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Non-weighted	Weighted
80	85
79	84
78	83
77	82
76	81
75	80
74	79
73	78
72	77
71	76
70	75

The minimum course grade must be a 70 to receive a weight of +5 points.

Beginning with the students entering grade 8 in the 2008–09 school year, for the purposes of class rank, all approved Advanced Placement courses shall receive weighted grades according to the table below:

Non-weighted	Weighted for enrollment in AP course	Weighted for enrollment in an AP course with a qualifying score of 3, 4, or 5 on AP exam
100	105	110
99	104	109
98	103	108
97	102	107
96	101	106
95	100	105
94	99	104
93	98	103
92	97	102
91	96	101
90	95	100
89	94	99
88	93	98

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(LOCAL)

87	92	97
86	91	96
85	90	95
84	89	94
83	88	93
82	87	92
81	86	91
80	85	90
79	84	89
78	83	88
77	82	87
76	81	86
75	80	85
74	79	84
73	78	83
72	77	82
71	76	81
70	75	80