

PROPOSED REVISIONS

Consistent Application for Graduating Class

The District shall apply the same class rank calculation method and rules for local graduation honors for all students in a graduating class, regardless of the school year in which a student first earned high school credit.

Calculation

The District shall include in the calculation of class rank semester grades earned in high school credit courses taken at any grade level, unless excluded below, and only in the following subject areas: English, mathematics, science, social studies, and languages other than English.

The class rank calculation shall not include semester grades from a course that is retaken after a passing grade has been earned.

The calculation shall include failing grades.

Exclusions

The calculation of class rank shall exclude grades earned in any distance learning course; independent study; credit recovery; or through credit by examination, with or without prior instruction.

Note: The following provisions shall apply to students in the graduating classes of ~~2024 and~~ 2025.

Weighted Grade System

The District shall categorize and weight eligible courses as Tier III, Tier II, and Tier I in accordance with provisions of this policy and as designated in the District's grading guidelines.

Categories

Tier III

Eligible Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB) and dual credit courses associated with the Texas Bioscience Institute shall be categorized and weighted as Tier III courses.

Tier II

Eligible dual credit courses shall be categorized and weighted as Tier II courses.

Tier I

All other eligible courses shall be categorized and weighted as Tier I courses.

Weighted Numerical Grade Average

The District shall assign weights to semester grades, including failing grades, earned in eligible courses and calculate a weighted numerical grade average, in accordance with the following:

Category	Weight
Tier III	plus 10
Tier II	plus 7
Tier I	plus 0

The District shall record unweighted numerical grades on student transcripts.

Note: The following provisions shall apply to students beginning in the fall semester of 2024 and will apply to students beginning with the graduating class of 2026.

Weighted Grade System

Categories

Tier IV

The District shall categorize and weight eligible courses as Tier IV, Tier III, Tier II, and Tier I in accordance with provisions of this policy and as designated in the District's grading guidelines.

Eligible International Baccalaureate (IB) and dual credit courses associated with the Texas Bioscience Institute shall be categorized and weighted as Tier IV courses.

Tier III

Eligible Advanced Placement (AP), Advanced, and dual credit courses shall be categorized and weighted as Tier III courses.

Tier II

Eligible on-level courses shall be categorized and weighted as Tier II courses.

Tier I

Eligible modified courses and remedial courses shall be categorized and weighted as Tier I courses.

Weighted Numerical Grade Average

The District shall assign weights to semester grades earned in eligible courses in accordance with the weighted numerical grade average chart published in the District's grading guidelines and shall calculate a weighted numerical grade average.

The District shall record unweighted numerical grades on student transcripts.

Note: The following provisions shall apply to all students, regardless of their graduating class.

Transferred Grades

When a student transfers semester grades for courses that would be eligible under the Regular category and the District has accepted the credit, the District shall include the grades in the calculation of class rank.

When a student transfers semester grades for courses that would be eligible to receive additional weight under the District's weighted grade system, the District shall assign additional weight to the grades based on the categories and grade weight system used by the District only if a similar or an equivalent course is offered to the same class of students in the District.

Local Graduation Honors

For the purpose of determining honors to be conferred during graduation activities, the District shall calculate class rank in accordance with this policy and administrative regulations by using grades available at the time of calculation at the end of the fifth six-week grading period of the senior year.

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)]

Valedictorian and Salutatorian

The valedictorian and salutatorian shall be the eligible students with the highest and second-highest rank, respectively. To be eligible for this local graduation honor, a student must:

1. Have been continuously enrolled in the District high school for the **entire** three semesters immediately preceding graduation;
2. Be graduating after exactly eight semesters of enrollment in high school; and
3. Have completed the foundation program with the distinguished level of achievement.

Ties

In case of a tie in weighted numerical grade averages after calculation to the **fourth decimal hundredths** place, the District shall recognize all students involved in the tie as sharing the honor and title.

Highest-Ranking Graduate

The student meeting the local eligibility criteria for recognition as the valedictorian shall also be considered the highest-ranking graduate for purposes of receiving the honor graduate certificate from the state of Texas.

~~The local eligibility criteria for recognition as the valedictorian shall not affect recognition of the highest-ranking graduate for purposes of receiving the honor graduate certificate from the state of Texas.~~