

Each District high school shall have a valedictorian and a salutatorian. Candidates for the honor of valedictorian and salutatorian must be in attendance at the awarding high school for the entire school year in which the honor is bestowed, reasonable and ordinary absences excepted. Candidates must be classified as senior(s) during both the fall and spring semesters of the graduating and awarding year. Alternatively, individuals who will not be classified as senior(s) during both the fall and spring semesters of the graduating and awarding year may qualify and become eligible for the honor of valedictorian and salutatorian by filing a written declaration of intent to graduate, with the building principal, on or before the tenth day of school.

Calculation and determination of the valedictorian and salutatorian shall be made based upon the highest and next highest grade point average, respectively, as of the close of school, seven days before the last regular day of attendance for seniors. In the event of ties, there shall be multiple valedictorians and multiple salutatorians. The method by which the grade point average will be calculated shall be the same for all candidates. The grade point average of candidates with ninth grade entry dates subsequent to those candidates who are graduating in four years (i.e., eight semesters) shall be calculated and determined upon the same criteria, classes, and basis as those graduating in four years (i.e., eight semesters).

Class rank shall be determined based on the highest grades and grade points in four courses in language arts and social studies, ~~three~~ **four** courses in science, which must include one each in biology or environmental science, chemistry, and physics, ~~three~~ **four** courses in math, and two courses in foreign language. For only the graduating class of 2000–01, the social studies requirement shall be reduced from the highest four courses to the highest three courses. The Superintendent or designee shall develop the appropriate administrative regulations for class rank determination, which shall include a list of the approved courses eligible for use.

A senior must carry at least six classes each semester to be eligible for honors. Any exception must be approved by the administration, (e.g., students on homebound, students concurrently enrolled in a university).