

PROPOSED REVISIONS 7.25.24

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.

Note: The following provisions shall apply to students in the graduating class of 2025, 2026, and 2027.

Calculation

The District shall include in the calculation of class rank semester grades earned in high school credit courses taken in grades 9-12 only, unless excluded below.

The class rank calculation shall not include semester grades from a course that is retaken after a passing grade has been earned, and the new grade shall not be recorded on the transcript.

The calculation shall include failing grades until a failing grade is replaced with a passing grade.

Exclusions

The calculation of class rank shall exclude grades earned in any distance learning course, unless the course is an eligible course taken through the Texas Virtual School Network (TxVSN); any dual credit course; or through credit by examination, with or without prior instruction.

~~Exception~~

~~Grades for courses taken through distance learning during the 2020-2021 school year as part of the District's remote learning plan during the COVID-19 pandemic shall be included in a student's class rank calculation.~~

Credit Accumulation

~~The "standard number of grades" accumulated is as follows:~~

Class	Class of 2024	Class of 2025 and Beyond
Freshmen	14	16
Sophomore	30	32
Junior	46	48
Midterm Senior	54	56
All Graduates	62	64

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Weighted Grade System

The District shall categorize and weight eligible courses as Advanced, Honors, and Regular in accordance with provisions of this policy and as designated in appropriate District publications.

Categories

Advanced

Eligible Advanced Placement (AP) courses and courses locally designated as advanced ~~honors~~ shall be categorized and weighted as Advanced courses.

Honors

Eligible ~~Pre-AP courses and~~ courses locally designated as honors shall be categorized and weighted as Honors courses.

Regular

All other eligible courses shall be categorized and weighted as Regular courses.

Weighted Numerical Grade Average

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

$$\frac{\begin{array}{l} \text{(sum of} \\ \text{grades)} \end{array}}{\begin{array}{l} \text{(number of} \\ \text{grades)} \end{array}} + \frac{\begin{array}{l} \text{(number of AP/Advanced} \\ \text{category Honors grades 70 or} \\ \text{above x 10) +} \\ \text{(number of Pre-AP/Honors} \\ \text{category grades 70 or above x} \\ \text{5)} \end{array}}{\begin{array}{l} \text{(standard number of grades} \\ \text{accumulated at this point in} \\ \text{academic career)} \end{array}} = \text{GPA}$$

The District shall record unweighted numerical grades on student transcripts.

Note: The following provisions shall apply to students beginning with the graduating class of 2028.

Calculation

The District shall include in the calculation of class rank semester grades earned in high school credit courses taken in grades 9-12 only, unless excluded below.

The class rank calculation shall not include semester grades from a course that is retaken after a passing grade has been earned, and the new grade shall not be recorded on the transcript.

The calculation shall include failing grades until a failing grade is replaced with a passing grade.

Exclusions

The calculation of class rank shall exclude grades earned in physical education; any course substituted for physical education; any distance learning course, unless the course is a

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dual credit course; any course for which credit is earned outside the regular school day or regular school year; any local credit course; any credit recovery course; or through credit by examination, with or without prior instruction.

**Weighted Grade
System
Categories**

The District shall categorize and weight eligible courses as Advanced, Dual Credit, Honors, and Regular in accordance with provisions of this policy and as designated in appropriate District publications.

Advanced

Eligible Advanced Placement (AP) courses and courses locally designated as advanced shall be categorized and weighted as Advanced courses.

Dual Credit

Eligible dual credit courses shall be categorized and weighted as Dual Credit courses.

Honors

Eligible courses locally designated as honors shall be categorized and weighted as Honors courses.

Regular

All other eligible courses shall be categorized and weighted as Regular 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
Advanced	plus 10
Dual Credit *	plus 7
Honors	plus 5
Regular	plus 0

*A grade of 60-69 or D in a dual credit course shall receive high school credit, and the grade shall be converted to a 70 for purposes of calculating class rank.

The District shall record unweighted numerical grades on student transcripts.

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

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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.

~~Letter grades will be converted to numerical grades as follows:~~

Letter Grade	Numerical Grade
A	95
B	85
C	77
D	72

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.

~~In order to be considered for local graduation honors, a student who is graduating early must timely submit the required District form in accordance with administrative procedures.~~

~~A student who chooses to attend the alternative education campus of choice at any time during grades 9-12 shall not be eligible for recognition with local graduation honors at their home campus or another District high school.~~

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:

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- ~~1. Have been continuously enrolled in the District high school from which they will graduate for the two semesters immediately preceding graduation by September 1;~~
- ~~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.~~

~~Graduating Class
of 2025~~

~~Beginning with the graduating class of 2025, to be eligible for this local graduation honor, a student must:~~

1. Have been continuously enrolled in the District high school from which they will graduate for the four semesters immediately preceding graduation by September 1;
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 eighth decimal place, the District shall recognize all students involved in the tie as sharing the honor and title.

~~Breaking Ties~~

~~In case of a tie in weighted numerical grade averages after calculation to the eighth decimal place, the District shall apply the following methods, in this order, to determine recognition as valedictorian or salutatorian:~~

- ~~1. Count the number of Advanced and Honors courses taken by each student involved in the tie.~~
- ~~2. Calculate a weighted numerical grade average using only eligible grades earned in English, mathematics, science, and social studies taken by each student involved in the tie.~~

~~If the tie is not broken after applying these methods, 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.