

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
CLASS RANKING

EIC
(LOCAL)

**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 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.

The calculation shall include failing grades.

Exclusions

~~The calculation of class rank shall exclude grades earned in athletics, cheerleading, physical education or the equivalent, band, dance, drill team, PALS, theater, choir, correspondence courses, local credit courses, summer school, night school, credit recovery, courses for which only a pass/fail was issued, or through credit by examination.~~

~~Beginning with the graduating class of 2025, the~~ calculation of class rank shall exclude grades earned in PALS, correspondence courses, local credit courses, summer school, night school, credit recovery, courses for which only a pass/fail was issued, or through credit by examination.

The calculation shall not exclude any dual credit course that has been approved by a District administrator for a student to complete in the summer.

Grades from nonaccredited nonpublic schools, including home-schools, shall not be used in determining rank in class, weighted numerical grade average, or academic average. [For an exhaustive list of exclusions for calculation of class rank, refer to the ~~student's freshman year~~ District's publication of the academic handbook/course guide issued in advance of the student's first year in high school.]

Spring 2020

**Weighted Grade
System**

A course taken in grades 9-12 during spring 2020 shall be excluded from calculation.

Categories

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

Advanced

Eligible Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), dual credit courses, and other courses locally designated as advanced shall be categorized and weighted as Advanced courses.

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~~Regular~~

~~All other eligible courses shall be categorized and weighted as Regular courses, except courses in which the content has been modified.~~

~~Modified Content~~

~~For purposes of determining class rank, courses for which the content has been modified with respect to the essential knowledge and skills shall be categorized and weighted as a Modified Content course. This includes when content is modified by an admissions, review, and dismissal (ARD) committee, 504 committee, or other lawful process.~~

~~Courses for which only the methodology has been modified for a student shall be classified and weighted as AP, IB, dual credit, locally designated as advanced, or Regular, as appropriate.~~

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

~~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:~~

Category	Weight
Advanced	plus 10
Regular	plus 0*

~~*A grade of 60-69 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.~~

~~Points shall be added to failing grades.~~

~~The District shall record weighted numerical grades on student transcripts.~~

~~**Note:** The following provisions shall apply to students beginning with the graduating class of 2026.~~

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

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Category	Weight
Advanced	multiplied by 1.10 Plus 10
Regular	multiplied by 1.00 Plus 0*
Modified Content	multiplied by 0.95

*A grade of 60-69 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.

~~All failing grades shall be multiplied by 1.0.~~

The District shall record weighted 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.

~~A course taken in grades 9-12 during spring 2020 shall be excluded from calculation.~~

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 third nine-week grading period of the senior year (or junior year for early graduates).

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)]

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**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 four 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.

If the student is enrolled in any alternative education program (homeschool, AEP, Phoenix Program, and the like) or is enrolled in any other school district(s) during the four semesters of the junior or senior year of his or her graduating class, the student shall not be eligible for valedictorian or salutatorian.

Breaking Ties

In case of a tie in weighted numerical grade averages after calculation to the fifth decimal place, the District shall compare the number of weighted courses taken by each student involved in the tie, to determine recognition as valedictorian or salutatorian.

Honor Graduates

The District shall recognize as honor graduates all students who have an overall weighted average of at least 90 and have completed the foundation program with the distinguished level of achievement.

**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.