



# UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT AGENDA ACTION ITEM

**TOPIC:** Approval of Revisions to Policy EIC (LOCAL) – Academic Achievement Class Ranking

**SUBMITTED BY:** Emma Leza, Executive Director for Instructional Accountability

**OF:** Curriculum and Instruction Department

**APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL TO SCHOOL BOARD:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE ASSIGNED FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION:** November 20, 2019

## **Recommendation:**

Board of Trustees to approved the proposed revisions for class rank calculation and Weighted Numerical Grade Average.

## **Rationale:**

Proposed revisions clarify language for semester grades; including failing grades; and earning additional points in the Weighted Numerical Grade Average.

## **Budgetary Information:**

No impact on budget.

## **Board Policy Reference and Compliance:**

Board Policy EIC (LOCAL) – Academic Achievement Class Ranking

**PROPOSED REVISIONS**

**Calculation** The District shall include in the calculation of class rank semester grades earned in all high school credit courses regardless of when the credit was earned.

The calculation shall include failing grades.

**Exclusions** The calculation of class rank shall exclude grades earned in ~~or by~~ a course for which a pass/fail grade is assigned.

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**Note:** The following provisions shall apply to students in the graduating classes of ~~2019, 2020,~~ and 2021.

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**Weighted Grade System** The District shall categorize and weight courses as Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3, in accordance with provisions of this policy.

**Categories**

*Tier 1*

Eligible Advanced Placement (AP) and dual credit courses designated in the course catalog shall be categorized and weighted as Tier 1.

*Tier 2*

Eligible Pre-AP courses and other locally identified weighted courses designated in the course catalog shall be categorized and weighted as Tier 2.

*Tier 3*

All other eligible courses identified in the course catalog shall be designated as Tier 3.

**Weighted Grade Point Average**

The District shall convert semester grades to grade points and shall calculate a weighted grade point average (GPA) in accordance with the following chart:

Grade	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
100	6.0	5.0	4.0
99	5.9	4.9	3.9
98	5.8	4.8	3.8
97	5.7	4.7	3.7
96	5.6	4.6	3.6
95	5.5	4.5	3.5
94	5.4	4.4	3.4
93	5.3	4.3	3.3
92	5.2	4.2	3.2
91	5.1	4.1	3.1

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT  
CLASS RANKING

EIC  
(LOCAL)

Grade	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
90	5.0	4.0	3.0
89	4.9	3.9	2.9
88	4.8	3.8	2.8
87	4.7	3.7	2.7
86	4.6	3.6	2.6
85	4.5	3.5	2.5
84	4.4	3.4	2.4
83	4.3	3.3	2.3
82	4.2	3.2	2.2
81	4.1	3.1	2.1
80	4.0	3.0	2.0
79	3.9	2.9	1.9
78	3.8	2.8	1.8
77	3.7	2.7	1.7
76	3.6	2.6	1.6
75	3.5	2.5	1.5
74	3.4	2.4	1.4
73	3.3	2.3	1.3
72	3.2	2.2	1.2
71	3.1	2.1	1.1
70	3.0	2.0	1.0
< 70	0	0	0

**Note:** The following provisions shall apply to students beginning with the graduating class of 2022.

**Weighted Grade System**

Categories  
*Tier 1*

The District shall categorize and weight eligible courses as Tier 1 and Tier 2 in accordance with provisions of this policy and as designated in appropriate District publications.

Eligible AP courses, dual credit courses completed in the District, Pre-AP courses, and locally designated advanced courses shall be categorized and weighted as Tier 1 courses.

*Tier 2*

All other eligible courses, including dual credit courses not completed in the District, shall be categorized and weighted as Tier 2 courses.

**Weighted Numerical  
Grade Average**

The District shall assign weights to semester grades of at least 70 earned in eligible courses and calculate a weighted numerical grade average, in accordance with the following:

Category	Weight
<del>Tier 1 AP course with AP test score of at least 3 and course grade of at least 70</del>	<del>Plus 15</del>
Tier 1	plus 10
<u>Tier 1 AP course with AP test score of at least 3</u>	<u>Add'l plus 5</u>
Tier 2	plus 0

No points shall be added to failing semester grades.

The District shall record unweighted numerical grades on student transcripts and report cards.

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**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 properly documented courses, the District shall assign weight to those grades based on the categories and grade weight system used by the District.

Students transferring into the District shall receive the numerical grade that was earned in the eligible courses at another school. Letter grades for eligible courses shall be recorded as follows:

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	50

**Local Graduation  
Honors**

For the purpose of determining honors to be conferred during graduation activities, the District shall calculate class rank at the end of

the third nine-week grading period of the senior year. The grade for the third nine-week grading period shall be used as the semester grade for this purpose.

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 who have the highest and second-highest rank, respectively. To be eligible for such recognition a student must:

1. Have been continuously enrolled in the same District high school for the six semesters immediately preceding graduation;
2. Have completed the foundation program with the distinguished level of achievement; and
3. Be graduating after four complete years of enrollment in high school.

**Breaking Ties**

In case of a tie, the District shall compute the weighted GPA or weighted numerical grade average, as applicable, to a sufficient number of decimal places until the tie is broken.

**Honor Graduates**

Beginning with students in the graduating class of 2022, the District shall recognize as an honor graduate each student who has completed the foundation program with the distinguished level of achievement and has an overall weighted numerical grade average of at least 90.

Honor graduates shall be recognized in accordance with the following:

Recognition	Weighted Numerical Grade Average
Summa cum laude	At least 100
Magna cum laude	95–99
Cum laude	90–94

**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 scholarship certificate from the state of Texas.