

Existing policy with modification based on P.A. 21-199.

Instruction

Grade Weighting and Class Rank

The New Fairfield School System believes it is necessary and important to provide differentiated quality points for the purpose of weighting its academic course offerings at the high school. Quality points are the weights that are assigned to courses in order to communicate their differing academic challenge. Calculation of the quality points assigned to academic courses multiplied by the grades a student achieves determines a student's Grade Point Average (GPA).

Weights assigned to academic courses communicate the level of academic challenge inherent in each course to students and their parents; therefore, the weights assigned help students to make more appropriate course selections. Additional weights assigned to college preparatory courses recognize that more challenging courses require advanced levels of work; therefore, advanced courses have higher course weights and impact the Grade Point Average accordingly.

Parents/guardians shall be advised as to whether a grade in an honors class, advanced placement class, International Baccalaureate program, Cambridge International program, dual enrollment, dual credit or early college is or is not given added weight for purposes of calculating grade point average and determining class rank. The grading system developed by the administration, subject to Board approval, shall reflect this.

Parents/Guardians and students shall be notified annually of the Board's position via the parent/student handbook and/or the high school's website.

New Fairfield High School has a two-tiered method for calculating students' Grade Point Averages (GPA). The first tier is the Academic Grade Point Average, which includes all grades earned in English, world languages, mathematics, science, social studies, and any honors or Advanced Placement courses. The second tier is the Overall Grade Point Average, which includes unweighted grades in all courses. Academic and Overall Grade Point Averages (GPA) are important ways to communicate a student's academic standing, and all colleges request GPA as part of the college acceptance process.

Advanced Placement courses will be distinguished from honors courses with higher weights, and honors courses will be distinguished from other college preparatory courses with higher weights for the determination of Grade Point Average and class rank. In order to qualify for the higher weight in Advance Placement courses, students must take the appropriate AP test; in addition, students enrolled in semester AP courses are required to complete successfully a teacher-assigned packet prior to the exam to qualify for the higher weight.

Academic Grade Point Average

Academic Grade Point Average is based on the arithmetic average (total grade points divided by credits taken) of grades earned in English, world languages, mathematics, science, social studies, and any honors or Advanced Placement courses.

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Academic Grade Point Average (continued)

<i>Instructional Level</i>	WT	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F
AP with Exam	5.00	5.00	4.67	4.33	4.00	3.67	3.33	3.00	2.67	2.33	2.00	1.67	1.33	0
Honors/AP without Exam	4.00	4.67	4.33	4.00	3.67	3.33	3.00	2.67	2.33	2.00	1.67	1.33	1.00	0
Level III	3.00	4.33	4.00	3.67	3.33	3.00	2.67	2.33	2.00	1.67	1.33	1.00	0.67	0
Level II	2.00	4.00	3.67	3.33	3.00	2.67	2.33	2.00	1.67	1.33	1.00	0.67	0.33	0
Level I	1.00	3.67	3.33	3.00	2.67	2.33	2.00	1.67	1.33	1.00	0.67	0.33	0.16	0

Independent Study courses are assigned weight after students present their projects to a committee of teachers for assessment. This committee determines how successfully each of the independent Study objectives was met, and a grade and weight are determined at that time, according to standard guidelines and rubrics.

Any students who transfer into the district during high school will have their transcripts evaluated by the guidance department. This evaluation will assign comparable course weights to all transferred courses so that students will not be penalized or advantaged in class rank.

Overall Grade Point Average

An overall GPA will also be calculated based on the unweighted arithmetic average of grades in all courses, using numerical grade values as follows:

A+ = 4.33	B+ = 3.33	C+ = 2.33	D+ = 1.33	F = 0.00
A = 4.0	B = 3.0	C = 2.0	D = 1.0	
A- = 3.67	B- = 2.67	C- = 1.67	D- = 0.67	

Class Rank

New Fairfield High School will report Class Rank annually in deciles (tenths) instead of exact standing Class Rank. Students and colleges will receive Academic and Overall Grade point averages, and a decile rank. Salutatorian and valedictorian will be calculated at the completion of senior year using the Academic Grade point average as criteria.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes
~~P.A. 99-81 An Act Concerning Weighted Grading for Honors Classes~~
 10-220g Policy on weighted grades for honors and advanced placement classes (as amended by PA 21-199)

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NEW FAIRFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
 New Fairfield, Connecticut