



**GOVERNING BOARD AGENDA ITEM  
AMPHITHEATER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10**

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**DATE OF MEETING:**      **October 1, 2024**

**TITLE:**      **Weighted and Unweighted Courses and the Calculation of Student Grade-Point Averages (GPA)**

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**BACKGROUND:**

Districts, including Amphitheater Public Schools, have utilized an academic course structure that assigns both weighted and unweighted values to courses that are most often associated with courses that are deemed “on-level” or “advanced.” Unweighted on-level courses adhere to a 4-point scale while advanced courses, such as AP, IB, REACH, or dual enrollment college courses utilize a weighted value that is based on a 5-point scale.

While every district determines their own criteria for what is “on-level” or “advanced” and may vary on specific courses, the impact on student Grade Point Averages (GPAs) results in students having the opportunity to earn above a 4.0 GPA.

The grade a student earns in an on-level course follows a structure where an A = 4 points, a B = 3 points, a C = 2 points, a D = 1 point, and an F = 0 points. Whereas in a weighted class that follows a 5-point scale an A = 5 points, a B = 4 points, a C = 3 points, a D = 2 points, and an F = 0 points.

A student’s GPA is determined by multiplying each grade associated with a course by the number of “points” assigned to the grade, such as reflected above, and divided by the total number of courses a student has completed. A student’s GPA can be calculated during each grading term; however, the student’s cumulative GPA is calculated both at the end of each year and at the conclusion of a student’s senior year.

Student GPA’s have an impact on eligibility to participate in extracurricular activities, qualification for Honor Roll, and admission into school organizations, such as National Honor Society. Additionally, student GPAs often result in students earning a discount on car insurance.

Student GPA’s are provided in two formats, weighted and unweighted, and both are reflected on the student’s transcript and are reported to academic institutions for admission purposes and scholarship purposes. Consideration of weighted and unweighted GPAs may be different in post-secondary academic institutions. Some in-state universities will only use the unweighted GPA, whereas out-of-state universities, particularly ivy league colleges will use both. Where a student’s weighted GPA, which reflects completion of advanced level coursework, plays a critical role is in qualification and consideration for competitive private and public scholarships.

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

This Board item is presented for the Board’s information.

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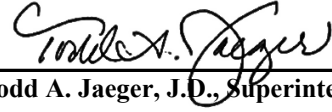
**INITIATED BY:**



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**Matthew Munger**  
**Associate Superintendent for Secondary Education**

**Date: September 24, 2024**



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**Todd A. Jaeger, J.D., Superintendent**