

# Board Information Item

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|  | <div>Information Packet<input type="checkbox"/></div> <div>Board Agenda Information<input type="checkbox"/></div> <div>Board Agenda Action<input checked="" type="checkbox"/></div> <div>Board Agenda Consent<input type="checkbox"/></div> <div>08/25/2025</div>   |
| <b>Subject:</b>                            | Act on Revisions to Board Policy EIC(LOCAL), Class Ranking  |
| <b>Contact Person:</b>                     | Mandy Ozuna, Director of Counseling<br>Paula Barbaroux, Chief Operations Officer  |
| <b>Policy/Code:</b>                        | EIC(LOCAL)  |
| <b>Priority and Performance Objective:</b> | Priority 1: Student Achievement and Post Secondary Preparedness<br>Objective 1.1: Academic Growth and Development<br>Objective 1.2: College and/or Career and/or Military Readiness<br><br>Priority 3: Parents, Families and Community Satisfaction and Engagement<br>Objective 3.1: Parents and Families Satisfaction and Engagement   |
| <b>Summary:</b>                            | <p>The administration is recommending several updates to Board Policy EIC(LOCAL), which pertains to the calculation and reporting of student Grade Point Averages (GPA) and class rank. District leadership is currently awaiting further guidance in response to Senate Bill 1191, which requires the Texas Commissioner of Education to establish a standardized GPA calculation method. This method will assign equal additional weight to Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), OnRamps dual enrollment, and dual credit courses.</p> <p>Before the 89th Legislative Session, the administration convened the Education Advisory Committee—comprised of district leaders, staff, and GCISD parents—to review the local academic achievement policy. This included discussions on class rank,</p> |

GPA scales, dual credit weighting, and local graduation requirements. At the conclusion of these meetings, the committee, in collaboration with district leadership, recommended the implementation of class rank reporting for all students in order to enhance access to college admissions and scholarship opportunities. The recommendation would be with an entering graduating class. While no changes were recommended regarding GPA scales, dual credit weighting, or graduation requirements, several areas were identified to continue to research. Senate Bill 1191 addressed the weighting differences with AP and dual credit courses.

Additional revisions to EIC(LOCAL) are being proposed, including the use of numeric grades for distance learning courses and credit by exam to be included in ranking GPA calculation for any coursework taken in the core and foreign language even in coursework taken before entering high school beginning with the Class of 2032. Currently, these courses are excluded from GPA calculations. The proposed change would incorporate numeric grades into GPA calculations to provide a more comprehensive academic transcript in core subject areas. The use of numeric grades for credit by exams on transcripts is also required per Texas Administrative Code 19 §74.24 for all students and will be reflected on student transcripts regardless of whether the grade is used for GPA calculation or not.

Furthermore, the administration recommends policy adjustments to ensure GCISD Collegiate Academy has accurate processes in place for determining class rankings. This includes implementing a new GPA scale with a separation in points rather than a range and adding tie-breaker language to address the growing number of students with identical GPAs when determining local graduation honors.

EIC(LOCAL) will need to be addressed before the ranking period which occurs after the completion of the 2025 Fall semester. If additional guidance is given by the Texas Commissioner of Education regarding the standardized GPA calculation method after the fall semester, the administration will revisit and recommend refining these proposed changes in alignment with the state's new requirements.

**Attachments:** Proposed Board Policy EIC(LOCAL)

**Recommendation:** The recommendation is for the Board of Trustees to approve the revisions to Board Policy EIC(LOCAL).

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT  
CLASS RANKING

EIC  
(LOCAL)

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| <b>Class Rank</b>  | Class rank shall not be calculated or reported except for students in the top 10 percent of a given class as required by state law. The District shall include on the official transcript of each student ranked in the top 10 percent the student's specific numerical rank out of the total number of students in the class. <b>However, starting with the graduating class of 2030, a student's specific numerical rank shall be recorded on the student's transcript at the end of each calculation period while in high school for students who complete all state regular content requirements at all high schools, with the exception of alternative education campuses.</b>  |
| Calculation Period | After each calculation period, students in the top 10 percent shall be notified of their exact class rank. The lowest weighted grade point average (GPA) used to determine class rank earned by a student currently in the top 10 percent of the class shall be communicated to all students in the class after each calculation period.   |
| Weighted GPA       | The District shall weight the grades in Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), and <del>honors</del> <b>Advanced</b> courses in accordance with provisions of this policy. All dual credit courses shall receive weight equivalent to an <del>honors</del> <b>Advanced</b> course. Additionally, any course that requires an AP course as a prerequisite shall be calculated with the same weight as an AP course.   |
| Exclusions         | <p>The weighted GPA shall include semester grades earned in all high school credit courses taken in grades 9-12 only, except as excluded in this policy.</p> <p>The calculation of class rank shall exclude grades earned:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. In summer school session between grades 8 and 9;</li><li>2. In summer school for the purpose of credit recovery;</li><li>3. Through credit by examination, with or without prior instruction; or</li><li>4. Through a traditional correspondence course. The District shall not exclude distance learning courses taken through the Texas Virtual School Network (TxVSN).</li></ol> <p><b>Beginning with students in the graduating class of 2032, the District shall include in the calculation of class rank semester grades earned in distance learning courses or through credit by examination where a numeric grade has been assigned, with or without prior instruction earned in high school credit courses, as designated in appropriate District publications, taken at any grade level including prior to high school but</b></p> |

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT  
CLASS RANKING

EIC  
(LOCAL)

**only in the following subject areas: English, mathematics, science, social studies, and Languages Other Than English (LOTE).**

Students in the top 10 percent, including the valedictorian and salutatorian, shall be determined using weighted semester grades earned in the five core areas of English, mathematics, science, social studies, and Languages Other Than English (LOTE) as well as any (AP) courses not associated with these subjects. The eligible courses shall be listed in the Course Selection Guide.

Collegiate Academy College courses taken by students attending the Collegiate Academy shall be counted in the student's **cumulative** GPA.

**Students in the top 10 percent, including the valedictorian and salutatorian, shall be determined using weighted semester grades earned in the five core areas of English, mathematics, science, social studies, and Languages Other Than English (LOTE) as well as any core college courses taken at TCC and institutions in which the District has a memorandum of understanding.**

Weighted Grade Point  
Average for Students  
(Excluding iUniversity  
Prep **and Collegiate  
Academy Class of  
2029 and Beyond**)

The District shall convert semester grades to grade points and shall calculate a weighted GPA in accordance with the following table:

| Grade  | AP  | <u>Honors</u><br>Advanced | Regular |
|--------|-----|---------------------------|---------|
| 97-100 | 6.0 | 5.0                       | 4.0     |
| 94-96  | 5.8 | 4.8                       | 3.8     |
| 90-93  | 5.6 | 4.6                       | 3.6     |
| 87-89  | 5.4 | 4.4                       | 3.4     |
| 84-86  | 5.2 | 4.2                       | 3.2     |
| 80-83  | 5.0 | 4.0                       | 3.0     |
| 77-79  | 4.8 | 3.8                       | 2.8     |
| 74-76  | 4.6 | 3.6                       | 2.6     |
| 71-73  | 4.4 | 3.4                       | 2.4     |
| 70     | 4.2 | 3.2                       | 2.2     |
|        |     |                           |         |

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT  
CLASS RANKING

EIC  
(LOCAL)

**Weighted Grade  
Point Average for  
Students of  
Collegiate Academy  
Class of 2029 and  
Beyond**

**Beginning with the graduating Class of 2029, students attending Collegiate Academy shall have semester grades converted to grade points in accordance with the following table:**

| Grade | Advanced/Dual<br>Credit | Regular |
|-------|-------------------------|---------|
| 100   | 6.0                     | 5.0     |
| 99    | 5.9                     | 4.9     |
| 98    | 5.8                     | 4.8     |
| 97    | 5.7                     | 4.7     |
| 96    | 5.6                     | 4.6     |
| 95    | 5.5                     | 4.5     |
| 94    | 5.4                     | 4.4     |
| 93    | 5.3                     | 4.3     |
| 92    | 5.2                     | 4.2     |
| 91    | 5.1                     | 4.1     |
| 90    | 5.0                     | 4.0     |
| 89    | 4.9                     | 3.9     |
| 88    | 4.8                     | 3.8     |
| 87    | 4.7                     | 3.7     |
| 86    | 4.6                     | 3.6     |
| 85    | 4.5                     | 3.5     |
| 84    | 4.4                     | 3.4     |
| 83    | 4.3                     | 3.3     |
| 82    | 4.2                     | 3.2     |
| 81    | 4.1                     | 3.1     |
| 80    | 4.0                     | 3.0     |
| 79    | 3.9                     | 2.9     |
| 78    | 3.8                     | 2.8     |
| 77    | 3.7                     | 2.7     |
| 76    | 3.6                     | 2.6     |

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT  
CLASS RANKING

EIC  
(LOCAL)

| Grade | Advanced/Dual<br>Credit | Regular |
|-------|-------------------------|---------|
| 75    | 3.5                     | 2.5     |
| 74    | 3.4                     | 2.4     |
| 73    | 3.3                     | 2.3     |
| 72    | 3.2                     | 2.2     |
| 71    | 3.1                     | 2.1     |
| 70    | 3.0                     | 2.0     |

Weighted Grade  
Point Average for  
Students of  
iUniversity Prep

Students attending iUniversity Prep shall have semester grades converted to grade points in accordance with the following table:

| Grade | AP   | Honors<br>Advanced | Regular |
|-------|------|--------------------|---------|
| 100   | 6.25 | 6.0                | 5.0     |
| 99    | 6.15 | 5.9                | 4.9     |
| 98    | 6.05 | 5.8                | 4.8     |
| 97    | 5.95 | 5.7                | 4.7     |
| 96    | 5.85 | 5.6                | 4.6     |
| 95    | 5.75 | 5.5                | 4.5     |
| 94    | 5.65 | 5.4                | 4.4     |
| 93    | 5.55 | 5.3                | 4.3     |
| 92    | 5.45 | 5.2                | 4.2     |
| 91    | 5.35 | 5.1                | 4.1     |
| 90    | 5.25 | 5.0                | 4.0     |
| 89    | 5.15 | 4.9                | 3.9     |
| 88    | 5.05 | 4.8                | 3.8     |
| 87    | 4.95 | 4.7                | 3.7     |
| 86    | 4.85 | 4.6                | 3.6     |
| 85    | 4.75 | 4.5                | 3.5     |
| 84    | 4.65 | 4.4                | 3.4     |

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT  
CLASS RANKING

EIC  
(LOCAL)

| Grade | AP   | Honors<br>Advanced | Regular |
|-------|------|--------------------|---------|
| 83    | 4.55 | 4.3                | 3.3     |
| 82    | 4.45 | 4.2                | 3.2     |
| 81    | 4.35 | 4.1                | 3.1     |
| 80    | 4.25 | 4.0                | 3.0     |
| 79    | 4.15 | 3.9                | 2.9     |
| 78    | 4.05 | 3.8                | 2.8     |
| 77    | 3.95 | 3.7                | 2.7     |
| 76    | 3.85 | 3.6                | 2.6     |
| 75    | 3.75 | 3.5                | 2.5     |
| 74    | 3.65 | 3.4                | 2.4     |
| 73    | 3.55 | 3.3                | 2.3     |
| 72    | 3.45 | 3.2                | 2.2     |
| 71    | 3.35 | 3.1                | 2.1     |
| 70    | 3.25 | 3.0                | 2.0     |

Transferred Grades  
(Excluding Collegiate Academy)

When a student transfers grades for properly documented courses, the District shall assign AP weight to AP and IB course grades **if the district in which the credit was earned has administered an AP or IB exam;** The District shall assign ~~honors~~ **Advanced** weight to transferred Pre-AP, Pre-IB, or ~~honors~~ **Advanced** course grades only if the same courses are offered to the same class of students in the District. ~~and if:~~

- ~~1. The district in which the credit was earned has administered an AP or IB exam; or~~
- ~~2. The course is intended to prepare students for a subsequent course in which an AP or IB exam would be administered.~~

The cumulative GPA of all relevant courses from any student who transfers out of iUniversity Prep and into another District high school shall be recalculated using the appropriate GPA table for his or her graduating cohort.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT  
CLASS RANKING

EIC  
(LOCAL)

Transferred Grades  
**Collegiate Academy  
Class of 2027 and  
Beyond**

**When a student transfers grades for properly documented courses, the District shall assign Advanced/Dual Credit weight to AP, IB, Pre-AP, and Pre-IB course grades. Additionally, the District shall assign Advanced weight to transferred or Advanced course grades only if the same or an equivalent course is offered to the same class of students at Collegiate Academy.**

**The cumulative GPA of all relevant courses from any student who transfers out of Collegiate Academy and into another District high school shall be recalculated using the appropriate GPA table for his or her graduating cohort.**

**Transferred Grades Collegiate Academy Class of 2026:**

**Students who transferred to Collegiate Academy for the class of 2026, or are transferring into Collegiate Academy for the class of 2026, with AP course credit will be able to designate one course to receive AP weight, while the rest will be assigned the same weight as dual credit courses.**

**Local Graduation  
Honors**

For the purpose of determining honors to be conferred during graduation activities, the District, **excluding Collegiate Academy**, shall calculate class rank at the end of the third nine-week grading period of the senior year. The third nine-week grades shall be used as the semester grade for this purpose.

**Collegiate Academy shall calculate class rank at the beginning of the Spring semester for all coursework completed prior to the start of the Spring term.**

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 such recognition, a student must:

1. Have been continuously enrolled in the same high school in the District for the three semesters immediately preceding graduation; and
2. Be graduating after four entire school years of enrollment in high school.

*Breaking Ties*



ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT  
CLASS RANKING

EIC  
(LOCAL)

In case of a tie, GPAs shall be calculated to the number of decimal places necessary to break the tie. In the event that a tie is unable to be broken using this method, the following criteria shall be used sequentially to the extent necessary to break a tie:

1. Totaling the number of AP courses successfully completed.
2. Computing the GPA of all AP courses successfully completed.

*Breaking Ties for  
Collegiate  
Academy*

~~Beginning with the class of 2027, if there is a tie in the GPA of graduating Collegiate Academy students, college courses, and the level taken, as indicated by the course numbering system, for dual credit core and foreign language courses, shall be considered in the computation of the GPA.~~

**For the class of 2026, if there is a tie in the GPA of graduating Collegiate Academy students, GPAs shall be calculated to the number of decimal places necessary to break the tie. In the event that a tie is unable to be broken using this method, the following criteria shall be used sequentially to the extent necessary to break a tie:**

**The Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) will be used to determine the highest-ranking student. The student with the highest SAT score on a single administration of the test will be named valedictorian; the student with the second highest score will be named salutatorian. SAT tests taken after January of the senior year shall not be used to break a tie. The American College Test (ACT) shall not be used to break a tie. If the SAT scores are tied, the college courses and the level taken, as indicated by the course numbering system, for dual credit core and foreign language courses, shall be considered in the computation of the GPA.**

**Beginning with the class of 2027 and beyond, if there is a tie in the GPA of graduating Collegiate Academy students, GPAs shall be calculated to the number of decimal places necessary to break the tie. In the event that a tie is unable to be broken using this method, the following criteria shall be used sequentially to the extent necessary to break a tie:**

**Ranking GPA will be calculated using the updated weighted grade point average scale for the class of 2029 (see chart above) to determine the highest-ranking student.**

**If a tie still exists, the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) will be used to determine the highest-ranking student. The student with the highest SAT score on a single administration of the test will be named valedictorian; the student with the second highest score will be named salutatorian. SAT tests taken after**

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT  
CLASS RANKING

EIC  
(LOCAL)

**January of the senior year shall not be used to break a tie. The American College Test (ACT) shall not be used to break a tie. If the SAT scores are tied, the college courses and the level taken, as indicated by the course numbering system, for dual credit core and foreign language courses, shall be considered in the computation of the GPA.**

Student Graduating  
in Fewer than Four  
Years

A student graduating in fewer than four entire school years of enrollment in high school shall not be eligible for recognition as the official valedictorian or salutatorian of a graduating class. However, if a student graduating in fewer than four entire school years of enrollment in high school has a weighted GPA equal to or higher than that of the four-year official valedictorian or salutatorian, the District shall recognize the student as the valedictorian or salutatorian of students graduating in one year, two years, or three years, as appropriate.

**Highest-Ranking  
Graduate**

The student meeting the local eligibility criteria for recognition as the valedictorian, as noted above at Valedictorian and Salutatorian, shall also be considered the highest-ranking graduate for purposes of receiving the scholarship certificate from the state of Texas.