

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 at any grade level, unless excluded below.

Exclusions

The calculation of class rank shall exclude grades earned in physical education; any course substituted for physical education; athletics; cheerleading; dance; any fine arts course; any music course; band; choir; theater arts; art; summer school; a distance learning course, unless the course is taken through the Texas Virtual School Network (TxVSN); or is either assigned to the student by the District or offered as a course option along with traditional District courses; a dual credit course taken through a college with which the District does not have a partnership agreement; an assigned remediation or tutoring course; any local credit course; or any course for which a pass/fail grade is assigned; or through credit by examination, with or without prior instruction.

**Weighted Grade
System**

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

Categories

Advanced

Eligible dual credit courses and locally designated honors courses shall be categorized and weighted as Advanced courses.

Regular

All other eligible courses shall be categorized and weighted as Regular courses.

**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 5 |
| Regular | plus 0 |

The District shall record unweighted numerical grades on student transcripts.

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 only if a similar or equivalent course is offered to the same class of students in the District.

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 time of calculation at the end of the fall semester of the senior year.

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 this local graduation honor, a student must:

1. Have been continuously enrolled in the District high school for the two school years immediately preceding graduation; and
2. Have completed the foundation program with the distinguished level of achievement or the foundation program with at least one endorsement.

Breaking Ties

In case of a tie in weighted numerical grade averages after calculation to the fourth decimal place, the District shall calculate a weighted numerical grade average using only eligible grades in Advanced, Honors, Advanced Placement, and dual credit courses taken by each student involved in the tie.

Highest-Ranking Graduate

The local eligibility criteria for recognition as the valedictorian shall not affect recognition of the highest-ranking graduate for purposes of receiving the honor graduate certificate from the state of Texas.

The District shall calculate class rank for this purpose at the end of the school year.