

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 in grades 9–12 only unless excluded below.

The calculation shall include failing grades.

Exclusions

The calculation of class rank shall exclude grades earned in summer school, any course for which credit is earned outside the regular school day or regular school year; any distance learning course; unless the course is taken through the Texas Virtual School Network (TxVSN), is assigned to the student by the District, or is offered as a course option along with traditional District courses; any local credit course including any type of student aid elective; or through credit by examination, with or without prior instruction.

Weighted Grade System

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

Categories

Advanced

Eligible dual credit, Advanced Placement (AP), and International Baccalaureate (IB) courses shall be categorized and weighted as Advanced.

Honors

Eligible Pre-AP courses and other courses locally designated as honors shall be categorized and weighted as Honors courses.

Academic

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

Weighted Grade Point Average

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

Grade	Advanced	Honors	Academic
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

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Grade	Advanced	Honors	Academic
92	5.2	4.2	3.2
91	5.1	4.1	3.1
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
69	2.9	1.9	0.9
68	2.8	1.8	0.8
67	2.7	1.7	0.7
66	2.6	1.6	0.6
65	2.5	1.5	0.5
64	2.4	1.4	0.4
63	2.3	1.3	0.3
62	2.2	1.2	0.2
61	2.1	1.1	0.1
60	2.0	1.0	0

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Class Rank Class rank shall be calculated at the end of the junior year and reported to senior students and their parents by November 1 of each year. Senior class rank shall be recalculated after the completion of the fall semester.

Transferred Grades When a student transfers semester grades for courses that would be eligible under the Academic 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 the same course is offered to the same class of students in the District.

A foreign exchange student shall not be ranked.

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 the end of the day on the Friday prior to graduation.

Grades received in May for dual credit courses shall also be included in the calculation.

All students shall be grouped for rank purposes according to graduation plans in the following order:

1. Pirate Scholars Program;
2. Foundation program with the distinguished level of achievement;
3. Foundation program with at least one endorsement; and
4. Foundation program.

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:

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1. Have been continuously enrolled in the District high school for the six semesters immediately preceding graduation, unless the student is a local resident, migrant student;
2. Be graduating after exactly eight semesters of enrollment in high school; and
3. Have completed the foundation program with the distinguished level of achievement and earned the pirate scholars distinction.

Breaking Ties

In case of a tie in weighted GPAs, after calculation to the fourth decimal place, the District shall calculate a weighted GPA using only eligible grades earned in Advanced and Honors courses taken by each student involved in the tie.

If the tie is not broken after applying these methods, the District shall recognize all students involved in the tie as sharing the honor and title.

Honor Graduates

The District shall recognize honor graduates at the commencement ceremony according to the following categories:

Honor Designation	Cumulative Grade Average
Summa cum laude	97–100
Magna cum laude	94–96
Cum laude	90–93

In addition, the District may announce recognitions for school-sponsored community service and from nationally recognized school organizations.

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 honor graduate certificate from the state of Texas.