

Purpose	The purpose of the District's class rank policy is to promote rigorous academic standards and readiness for college, career, and life in a globally competitive economy. Class ranking shall be used to determine District honors and awards and will be submitted to colleges.
Weighted Grade Points	In order to encourage students to take more challenging courses and to reward those students who complete more challenging courses, grades earned in Advanced Placement (AP), Pre-AP, International Baccalaureate (IB), magnet courses, Texas Education Agency (TEA)-identified advanced courses, articulated Tech-Prep courses, and dual credit courses at designated colleges or universities shall be weighted. The grades earned in these courses shall be assigned weighted grade points in accordance with the Integrated Grading Scale set out in EIC(REGULATION). Grade points shall be used to compute grade point average (GPA), to determine honor roll status, and to calculate rank in class for academic honor positions as specified in this policy.
Credit by Examination	Scores earned through credit by examination, with or without prior instruction, shall be used in computing a student's GPA and class rank. [See EHDB and EHDC]
Pass / Fail Scores	Pass/fail scores, whether earned in the District or transferred from a sending district, shall not be used in computing GPA and class rank. [See EIC(REGULATION)]
Class Rank	For students who entered grade 9 prior to the 2011–12 school year, class rank for all purposes shall be determined by descending order of students' cumulative weighted GPAs.
For Students in High School Before 2011–12	
Effective for Students Entering Grade 9 in School Year 2011–12 and Thereafter	For students entering grade 9 during the 2011–12 school year and thereafter, class rank shall be determined by descending order of students' weighted GPAs earned in courses that satisfy the students' graduation plans in the following curriculum categories: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. English/language arts;2. Mathematics;3. Science;4. Social studies; and5. Languages other than English (LOTE). If a student completes more courses that satisfy the student's graduation plan than required within any of the five categories specified above, the student's weighted GPA used for class rank shall be calculated using the student's grades within each category with the highest grade point value.

**Class Rank for
Unranked Campuses**

For an approved campus, a student's class rank shall not be automatically reported, except for the top ten percent of a given class. Class rank shall not appear on any student's academic achievement record (transcript). The District shall provide to each student in the top ten percent of his or her class, and any student who requests it, a certification of class rank containing the student's numerical rank in class. [See EIC(REGULATION)]

**Calculation of Local
Honors**

For Students Who
Entered High
School Before
2011–12

For purposes of identifying local honors positions of the valedictorian, the salutatorian, and the highest ranking graduate, GPA shall be calculated at the end of the sixth six weeks distinct from calculations used to determine class rank, where rank is calculated using the restrictive disciplines noted above. [See FG(LOCAL) for Trustees' Scholar Awards and FG(REGULATION) for District Recognition Scholar Awards]

For Students
Entering Grade 9 in
School Year 2011–
12 and Thereafter

For purposes of identifying local honors positions of the valedictorian, the salutatorian, and the highest-ranking graduate, class rank shall be calculated at the end of the sixth six weeks using the grades from courses that satisfy graduation requirements within the following disciplines: English/language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, and LOTE.

If a student exceeds the required number of courses necessary to satisfy the graduation requirements in one or more of the disciplines listed above, then the courses that yield the highest grade points within those disciplines that satisfy the graduation requirements will be included in calculating class rank. Elective courses are not included in calculating class rank. The required number of credits/courses will vary according to the student's intended graduation plan. [See FG(LOCAL) for Trustees' Scholar Awards and FG(REGULATION) for District Recognition Scholar Awards]

**Valedictorian and
Salutatorian**

The valedictorian and the salutatorian shall be the eligible students with the highest and second highest class ranking as determined by this policy who have:

1. Completed the Recommended High School Program, the Advanced/Distinguished Achievement Program, or the foundation program with the distinguished level of achievement;
2. Met all course requirements or demonstrated subject mastery (course proficiency) through state-approved placement examinations; and
3. Been continuously enrolled in and attending classes at the same District high school for two regular school years immediately preceding the students' graduation.

Co-Honors	<p>In case of a tie for the position of valedictorian, the students who tie shall be recognized as covalentorians, and the position of salutatorian shall remain vacant.</p> <p>In case of a tie for the position of salutatorian, the students who tie shall be recognized as cosalutatorians.</p>
District Honor Graduates	<p>District honor graduates shall include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Students whose class rank is within the top two percent of the graduating class. These students shall be designated "Graduates with Highest Honors."2. Students whose class rank is within the next three percent of the graduating class. These students shall be designated "Graduates with Higher Honors."3. Students whose class rank is within the next five percent of the graduating class. These students shall be designated "Graduates with High Honors."
Early Graduates	<p>A student who completes the high school program requirements in fewer than four years shall be ranked in the class with which he or she actually graduates.</p>
Out-of-School Tester	<p>An out-of-school tester shall be ranked with the respective graduating class in which he or she completes all coursework requirements, regardless of when he or she masters state-mandated end-of-course (EOC) assessments.</p>
State Recognition as Highest-Ranking Graduate	<p>For purposes of awarding the state certificate entitling a student to receive a college tuition grant under Education Code 54.201, the highest-ranking graduate shall be the eligible student who graduates with the highest ranking in his or her graduating class.</p> <p>A student's class rank shall be reported on the student's transcript as required by TEA and made available in accordance with the application deadline when requested by the student. [See EIC(LEGAL)]</p> <p>For the purpose of applications to institutions of higher education, the District shall also calculate class ranking 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 ranking for the purpose of automatic admission under state law. [See EIC(LEGAL)]</p>
Effective Date	<p>This policy shall be effective as of the adoption date, August 26, 2014.</p>