

**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.

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**Note:** The following provisions shall apply to students in the graduating classes of 2019, 2020, and 2021.

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Exclusions

The calculation of class rank shall exclude grades earned in physical education; athletics; any course substituted for physical education; any local credit course, such as driver's education, student aide, or a summer project; any course taken in summer school; any distance learning course; any dual credit course not taken through the District; or any grade earned through credit by examination, with or without prior instruction.

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**Note:** The following provisions shall apply to students beginning with the graduating class of 2022.

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The calculation of class rank shall exclude grades earned in any course for which credit is earned outside the regular school day or regular school year; a distance learning course, unless the course is either assigned to the student by the District or offered as a course option along with traditional District course; a dual credit course taken through a college with which the District does not have a partnership agreement; or through credit by examination, with or without prior instruction.

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**Note:** The following provisions shall apply to all students, regardless of their graduating class.

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**Weighted Grade  
System**

Categories

*Advanced*

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

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

*Honors*

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

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*Regular*

All other eligible courses shall be categorized and weighted as Regular 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):

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Advanced</b>	<b>Honors</b>	<b>Regular</b>
100	7.0	6.0	5.0
99	6.9	5.9	4.9
98	6.8	5.8	4.8
97	6.7	5.7	4.7
96	6.6	5.6	4.6
95	6.5	5.5	4.5
94	6.4	5.4	4.4
93	6.3	5.3	4.3
92	6.2	5.2	4.2
91	6.1	5.1	4.1
90	6.0	5.0	4.0
89	5.9	4.9	3.9
88	5.8	4.8	3.8
87	5.7	4.7	3.7
86	5.6	4.6	3.6
85	5.5	4.5	3.5
84	5.4	4.4	3.4
83	5.3	4.3	3.3
82	5.2	4.2	3.2
81	5.1	4.1	3.1
80	5.0	4.0	3.0
79	4.9	3.9	2.9
78	4.8	3.8	2.8
77	4.7	3.7	2.7
76	4.6	3.6	2.6
75	4.5	3.5	2.5
74	4.4	3.4	2.4
73	4.3	3.3	2.3
72	4.2	3.2	2.2

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Grade	Advanced	Honors	Regular
71	4.1	3.1	2.1
70	4.0	3.0	2.0
Below 70	0	0	0

**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 the same 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 third nine-week grading period 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 since the end of the first official grading period of grade 10;
2. Be graduating after exactly eight semesters of enrollment in high school; and
3. Have completed the foundation program with at least one endorsement.

*Breaking Ties*

In case of a tie in weighted GPAs after calculation to the fourth decimal place, the District shall apply the following methods, in this order, to determine recognition as valedictorian or salutatorian:

1. Count the number of Advanced courses taken by each student involved in the tie.

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2. Count the number of 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

To be recognized for academic honors and allowed to wear an honor cord during the graduation ceremony, a student must have:

1. A weighted GPA of 4.50–4.74 for a cum laude designation;
2. A weighted GPA of 4.75–4.99 for a magna cum laude designation; or
3. A weighted GPA of 5.0 or above for a summa cum laude designation.

**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.