

**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 all high school credit courses taken at any grade level, unless excluded below.

The calculation shall include failing grades.

Exclusions

The calculation of class rank shall exclude grades earned in physical education, any course substituted for physical education, athletics, band, and yearbook, and through credit by examination without prior instruction.

**Weighted Grade
System**

Categories

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.

Advanced

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

Exception

Beginning with calculations for students in the graduating class of 2022, dual credit courses shall be categorized and weighted as Advanced courses only if taught by District employees.

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 10
Regular	plus 0

No points shall be added to failing grades.

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.

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 end of the fifth six-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 for the four semesters immediately preceding graduation; and
2. Be graduating after exactly eight semesters of enrollment in high school.

Ties

In case of a tie in weighted numerical grade averages after calculation to the fourth decimal place, the District shall recognize all students involved in the tie as sharing the honor and title.

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.