

**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.

The calculation shall include failing grades.

Exclusions

The calculation of class rank shall exclude grades earned in courses not recognized by the Texas Education Agency (TEA), courses from a nonaccredited instructional setting, physical education, any course substituted for physical education, athletics, band, choir, theater arts, art, any assigned remediation or tutoring course, any local credit course, and any course for which a pass/fail grade is assigned.

**Weighted Grade
System**

Categories

The District shall categorize and weight eligible courses as Advanced Placement (AP), Dual Credit, and Honors and Regular in accordance with provisions of this policy and as designated in appropriate District publications.

*AP, Dual Credit,
and Honors*

Eligible Advanced Placement (AP), dual credit, and other courses locally designated as honors shall be categorized and weighted as AP, Dual Credit, and Honors 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
AP, Dual Credit, and Honors	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.

Letter grades shall be recorded according to the following conversion scale:

A = 95

B = 85

C = 75

D = 70

F = 60

**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 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;
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.

Breaking Ties

In case of a tie in weighted numerical grade averages after calculation to the fourth decimal place, the District shall compare the SAT score of each student involved in the tie to determine recognition as valedictorian or salutatorian.

If the tie is not broken by this method, the District shall recognize all students involved in the tie as sharing the honor and title.

**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.