

**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. However, the District shall include no more than four semester grades earned in physical education, band, or athletics.

The calculation shall include failing grades.

Exclusions

The calculation of class rank shall exclude grades earned in credit recovery, summer school, and any local credit course.

**Weighted Grade System**

Categories

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

*Honors / AP / Dual Credit*

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

*Advanced*

Eligible courses locally designated as advanced shall be categorized and weighted as Advanced courses.

*Academic*

Eligible courses locally designated as academic shall be categorized and weighted as Academic 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, including failing grades, earned in eligible courses and calculate a weighted numerical grade average, in accordance with the following:

Category	Weight
Honors/AP/Dual Credit	multiplied by 1.3
Advanced	multiplied by 1.2
Academic	multiplied by 1.1
Regular	multiplied by 1.0

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 only if the same or equivalent courses are 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 senior school 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.

*Breaking Ties*

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

1. Count the number of dual credit and AP courses taken by each student involved in the tie.
2. Calculate a numerical grade average using only eligible grades in dual credit and AP 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.

**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.