

**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.

Exclusions

Each student with credits beyond the 26 credits required for graduation shall be able to choose a maximum of eight semester grades to be excluded from his or her grade point average (GPA) calculation. No semester credit that is used to meet the state minimum courses required for graduation under the chosen graduation plan may be excluded from the grade point calculation for rank purposes.

The following shall not be included in the calculation for class rank and shall automatically count toward the maximum of eight semester grades of exemption available to all students:

1. Local elective courses other than local elective courses tied to senior projects;
2. Credits earned through credit by examination;
3. Summer school;
4. Correspondence;
5. Dual credit and concurrent enrollment college courses; and
6. Web-based courses that are not District-designed and delivered.

**Weighted Grade
Scale for Rank**

For purposes of class rank, courses shall be divided into the following three categories:

1. Tier 1—Advanced Placement (AP) courses.
2. Tier 2—Core subject courses (mathematics, science, English/language arts, and social studies) taken in grades 9–12, Pre-AP courses taken in other districts, and senior project courses.
3. Tier 3—All other courses.

Weighted Grade Scale for Rank

Grade	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
100	5.0	4.5	4.0
99	4.9	4.4	3.9
98	4.8	4.3	3.8
97	4.7	4.2	3.7
96	4.6	4.1	3.6
95	4.5	4.0	3.5
94	4.4	3.9	3.4
93	4.3	3.8	3.3
92	4.2	3.7	3.2
91	4.1	3.6	3.1
90	4.0	3.5	3.0
89	3.9	3.4	2.9
88	3.8	3.3	2.8
87	3.7	3.2	2.7
86	3.6	3.1	2.6
85	3.5	3.0	2.5
84	3.4	2.9	2.4
83	3.3	2.8	2.3
82	3.2	2.7	2.2
81	3.1	2.6	2.1
80	3.0	2.5	2.0
79	2.9	2.4	1.9
78	2.8	1.3	1.8
77	2.7	2.2	1.7
76	2.6	2.1	1.6
75	2.5	2.0	1.5

Grade	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
74	2.4	1.9	1.4
73	2.3	1.8	1.3
72	2.2	1.7	1.2
71	2.1	1.6	1.1
70	2.0	1.5	1.0
69–0	0	0	0

Official GPA Calculation

A student's official GPA shall be calculated by averaging semester grades earned in grades 9–12. The official GPA shall be calculated no less than annually at the close of the spring semester. The numeric semester average shall earn grade points according to the District's weighted grade scale for official GPA. For purposes of communicating the student's high school performance, the official GPA shall be recorded on each student's high school transcript.

Weighted Grade Scale for Official GPA

For purposes of calculating the official GPA, courses shall be divided into the following three categories:

1. Tier 1—AP courses.
2. Tier 2—Core subject courses (mathematics, science, English/language arts, and social studies) taken in grades 9–12, Pre-AP courses taken in other districts, and senior project courses.
3. Tier 3—All other courses.

Weighted Grade Scale for Official GPA

Grade	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
100	5.00	4.50	4.0
99	4.95	4.45	3.95
98	4.90	4.40	3.90
97	4.85	4.35	3.85
96	4.80	4.30	3.80
95	4.75	4.25	3.75
94	4.70	4.20	3.70
93	4.65	4.15	3.65

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
CLASS RANKING

EIC
(LOCAL)

Grade	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
92	4.60	4.10	3.60
91	4.55	4.05	3.55
90	4.50	4.00	3.50
89	4.45	3.95	3.45
88	4.40	3.90	3.40
87	4.35	3.85	3.35
86	4.30	3.80	3.30
85	4.25	3.75	3.25
84	4.20	3.70	3.20
83	4.15	3.65	3.15
82	4.10	3.60	3.10
81	4.05	3.55	3.05
80	4.00	3.50	3.00
79	3.95	3.45	2.95
78	3.90	3.40	2.90
77	3.85	3.35	2.85
76	3.80	3.30	2.80
75	3.75	3.25	2.75
74	3.70	3.20	2.70
73	3.65	3.15	2.65
72	3.60	3.10	2.60
71	3.55	3.05	2.55
70	3.50	3.00	2.50
69-0	0	0	0

Transferred Grades When a student transfers semester grades for courses that would be eligible under the Tier 3 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 from an accredited school that would be eligible to receive additional weight under the District's weighted grade system, the student shall receive credits and grade weights counted toward the GPA according to the list of weighted courses offered by the District and the grade point scale used for credit earned in the District.

An earned grade from a nonaccredited school, public, private, or parochial school, including a homeschool, shall not be accepted as a transferred grade; however, a student may earn a credit for a course taken from a nonaccredited school in which he or she earned a passing grade by meeting the required standard of mastery on a credit by examination with prior instruction assessment. [See FD and EHDB]

Letter grades for transfer students shall be recorded as follows:

Conversion Scale

A+	98
A	95
A-	91
B+	88
B	85
B-	81
C+	78
C	75
C-	71
D, if transferring district awarded credit	70
D, if transferring district did not award credit	69
F	65

**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 two students with the highest and second-highest rank based on the weighted GPAs

as calculated on the District's weighted grade scale for rank. 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. Have completed the foundation program with the distinguished level of achievement.

Ties

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

Honor Graduates

An honor graduate shall be determined after the third nine-week grading period of the senior year. An honor graduate must graduate under the foundation program with the distinguished level of achievement. An honor graduate shall be one of the following:

- Valedictorian;
- Salutatorian;
- Summa cum laude (top five percent of graduating class);
- Magna cum laude (top ten percent of graduating class; or
- Cum laude (top 15 percent of graduating class).

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.