

Class Ranking

A student's class ranking shall be determined within the graduating class of the school year in which the student completes all requirements for a diploma, regardless of the number of years the student is enrolled in high school. Correspondence courses, credit by examination, PLATO courses, summer courses, band, physical education, athletics, PALS, VAC, TEP, COP, agricultural career prep, credits earned in junior high, audit classes, TAKS prep, work permit, Teen Leadership, and any local courses shall not be considered in determining honor graduates. All other courses shall be included.

Early Graduates

A student who completes the high school program requirements in fewer than four years shall be ranked in the class with which he or she actually graduates, but shall not be eligible for valedictorian or salutatorian honors.

**Valedictorian/
Salutatorian**

The valedictorian and salutatorian shall be the eligible students with the highest and second highest ranking as determined by the District's class ranking procedure described in this policy. To be eligible for valedictorian or salutatorian, a student must have earned credits for at least six advanced courses and have been enrolled in the District high school for the last four semesters.

Breaking a Tie

In case of a tie in the determination of valedictorian or salutatorian, the following methods shall be used to determine who will be selected salutatorian or valedictorian:

1. The weighted grade average shall be computed to a sufficient number of decimal places until the tie is broken; if still tied,
2. Covalectorians shall be declared, with no salutatorian. All those tying shall be recognized. Should a tie develop for salutatorian, all those tying shall be recognized.

**Highest Ranking
Student**

The valedictorian shall be the highest ranking graduate and shall receive the honor graduate certificate as specified in Education Code 54.201. If covalectorians are named, the valedictorian with the highest ACT scores shall be named the highest ranking graduate.

Top Ten Percent

The top ten percent shall be those students whose grade point averages make up the top ten percent of the graduating class and qualify for automatic admission under Education Code 51.803. Eligibility standards required for the local procedure for determining valedictorian and salutatorian or other local honor positions shall not apply to the procedure for determining the top ten percent. The GPA shall be reported on the student's transcript and made available in accordance with the application deadline for the college or university when requested by the student. [See EIC(LEGAL)]

Transfer Students A student who transfers into the District high school with higher-level course credits shall receive similar credits counted toward the GPA according to the list of higher-level courses offered in the District and the weighted grade point scale used for credit earned in the District.

Transfer Credit A student who transfers into the District shall receive the numerical grade that was earned in courses at another school. Letter grades shall be recorded as follows:

A = 95 B = 85 C = 75 D = 70 F = 60

Weighted System Weighted course grades, based on the level of difficulty, shall receive additional grade points to be averaged in for the final GPA. Weight shall equate to ten points. The weighted grade shall be for GPA purposes only and shall not be used on the final transcript. The weighted courses designated at the District high school shall be as follows:

Advanced Courses	Anatomy and Physiology Spanish III and IV Physics English I and II Advanced English III AP	Chemistry AP Advanced Algebra II Biology AP Dual credit courses Calculus
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