

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
CLASS RANKING

EIC
(LOCAL)

**Consistent
Application for
Graduating Class**

The District shall apply the same class rank calculation method and rules 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 regardless of when the credit was earned, unless excluded below.

Exclusions

The calculation of class rank shall exclude grades earned in or by credit by examination, with or without prior instruction; summer school and night school.

In addition, the calculation of class rank shall exclude grades earned through distance learning.

**Weighted Grade
System**

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

Categories

*Dual Credit /
Advanced
Placement*

Eligible AP and dual credit courses shall be categorized and weighted as Dual Credit/Advanced Placement courses.

Pre-AP

Eligible Pre-AP courses and other courses locally designated as honors courses shall be categorized and weighted as pre-AP courses.

Regular Courses

All other eligible courses shall be designated as Regular courses.

Weighted Numerical
Grade Average

The District shall assign weights to grades earned in eligible courses and calculate a weighted numerical grade average, in accordance with the following:

Category	Weight
Dual Credit /Advanced Placement	plus 5
Pre-AP	plus 3.5
Regular	plus 0

The District shall record unweighted numerical grades for each course on the report card and a weighed numerical grade average on the transcript.

Transferred Grades

When a student transfers grades for properly documented and eligible courses, the District shall assign weight to those grades

based on the categories and grade weight system used by the District, if a similar or equivalent course is 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 using grades available at the time of calculation at the end of the spring semester (i.e., the end of the final school year).

For the purpose of applications to institutions of higher education, the District shall also calculate class ranking 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 ranking 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 ranking, respectively. To be eligible for such recognition, a student must:

1. Have been continuously enrolled in the same high school in the District for the four semesters immediately preceding graduation;
2. Have completed the Recommended Program, the Advanced/Distinguished Achievement Program, or the foundation program with the distinguished level of achievement; and
3. Be graduating after exactly eight semesters of enrollment in high school.

Breaking Ties

In case of a tie in weighted numerical grade averages, the District shall apply the following methods, in this order, to determine recognition as valedictorian or salutatorian:

1. Compute the weighted numerical grade average to a sufficient number of decimal places until the tie is broken.
2. Compare scores on standardized college entrance tests, if the same tests were taken by all students 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 scholarship certificate from the state of Texas.