

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 local credit courses and any course for which a pass/fail grade is assigned.

Note: The following provisions shall apply to students in the graduating classes of 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022.

Weighted Grade System

Categories

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

Advanced Placement/Dual Credit

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

Pre-AP/Tech Prep

Eligible Pre-AP and technology prep courses shall be categorized and weighted as Pre-AP/Tech Prep courses.

Honors

Other eligible courses locally designated as honors shall be categorized and weighted as Honors courses.

Academic

All other eligible courses shall be categorized and weighted as Academic 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	Plus 10
Pre-AP and Tech Prep	Plus 5
Honors	Plus 3

Category	Weight
Academic	Plus 0

No points shall be added to failing grades.

The District shall record unweighted numerical grades on student transcripts.

Note: The following provisions shall apply to students beginning with the graduating class of 2023.

Weighted Grade System

Categories

Advanced Placement/Dual Credit

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

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

Pre-AP

Eligible Pre-AP courses shall be categorized and weighted as Pre-AP courses.

Academic

All other eligible courses shall be categorized and weighted as Academic 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	Plus 10
Pre-AP	Plus 5
Academic	Plus 0

No points shall be added to failing grades.

The District shall record unweighted numerical grades on student transcripts.

Note: The following provisions shall apply to all students, regardless of their graduating class.

Transferred Grades When a student transfers semester grades for courses that would be eligible under the Academic 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 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 in accordance with this policy and administrative regulations by using grades available 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 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. Have completed 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 after calculation to the fourth decimal place, the District shall apply the following methods, in this order, to determine recognition as valedictorian or salutatorian:

1. Calculate a weighted numerical grade average only using eligible grades earned in English, mathematics, science, social studies, and languages other than English.
2. Count the number of weighted 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.