

The District shall apply the same rules for class rank calculation and local graduation honors to all students in a graduating class, regardless of the school year in which a student entered grade 9 or the graduation program under which the student completes requirements for graduation.

**Calculation**

The District shall include in the calculation of class rank semester grades earned in high school credit courses taken in grades 9–12. The Superintendent or designee shall publish a list of courses and the relative weight of each course to calculate the weighted grade point average (GPA).

**Weighted Grade System**

The District shall categorize and weight eligible courses as Advanced Placement (AP)/dual credit, Pre-AP/Honors, and Regular in accordance with provisions of this policy.

*Categories*

*AP / Dual Credit Courses*

Eligible AP and dual credit courses designated in the student handbook shall be categorized and weighted as Advanced courses.

Beginning with the graduating class of 2019, the calculation of class rank shall include grades earned in a dual credit course taken at the District high school and taught by a District employee if the class is offered by the District. Dual credit courses taken online or on a college campus shall only be categorized and weighted as advanced if the course is not offered by the District.

*Pre-AP / Honors Courses*

Eligible Pre-AP courses and Honors courses locally designated as Pre-AP and honors courses in the student handbook shall be categorized and weighted as Pre-AP courses and Honors courses.

*Regular Courses*

All other eligible courses shall be designated as Regular courses.

**Weighted Grade Point Average**

For students who entered grade 9 before the 2014–15 school year, the District shall convert grades in eligible courses to grade points and shall calculate a weighted GPA in accordance with the following chart:

<b>Grade</b>	<b>AP / Dual Credit</b>	<b>Pre-AP / Honors</b>	<b>Regular</b>
100	8.0	6.0	4.0
99	7.9	5.9	3.9
98	7.8	5.8	3.8
97	7.7	5.7	3.7
96	7.6	5.6	3.6
95	7.5	5.5	3.5

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Grade	AP / Dual Credit	Pre-AP / Honors	Regular
94	7.4	5.4	3.4
93	7.3	5.3	3.3
92	7.2	5.2	3.2
91	7.1	5.1	3.1
90	7.0	5.0	3.0
89	6.9	4.9	2.9
88	6.8	4.8	2.8
87	6.7	4.7	2.7
86	6.6	4.6	2.6
85	6.5	4.5	2.5
84	6.4	4.4	2.4
83	6.3	4.3	2.3
82	6.2	4.2	2.2
81	6.1	4.1	2.1
80	6.0	4.0	2.0
79	5.9	3.9	1.9
78	5.8	3.8	1.8
77	5.7	3.7	1.7
76	5.6	3.6	1.6
75	5.5	3.5	1.5
74	5.4	3.4	1.4
73	5.3	3.3	1.3
72	5.2	3.2	1.2
71	5.1	3.1	1.1
70	5.0	3.0	1.0

Beginning with students who entered grade 9 during the 2014–15 school year, the District shall convert grades in eligible courses to grade points and shall calculate a weighted GPA in accordance with the following chart:

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<b>Grade</b>	<b>AP / Dual Credit</b>	<b>Pre-AP / Honors</b>	<b>Regular</b>
100	6.0	5.0	4.0
99	5.9	4.9	3.9
98	5.8	4.8	3.8
97	5.7	4.7	3.7
96	5.6	4.6	3.6
95	5.5	4.5	3.5
94	5.4	4.4	3.4
93	5.3	4.3	3.3
92	5.2	4.2	3.2
91	5.1	4.1	3.1
90	5.0	4.0	3.0
89	4.9	3.9	2.9
88	4.8	3.8	2.8
87	4.7	3.7	2.7
86	4.6	3.6	2.6
85	4.5	3.5	2.5
84	4.4	3.4	2.4
83	4.3	3.3	2.3
82	4.2	3.2	2.2
81	4.1	3.1	2.1
80	4.0	3.0	2.0
79	3.9	2.9	1.9
78	3.8	2.8	1.8
77	3.7	2.7	1.7
76	3.6	2.6	1.6
75	3.5	2.5	1.5
74	3.4	2.4	1.4
73	3.3	2.3	1.3
72	3.2	2.2	1.2
71	3.1	2.1	1.1
70	3.0	2.0	1.0

**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 similar 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 using grades available at the time of calculation at the end of the third quarter grading period of the senior year. The third quarter grade shall be used as the semester grade for this purpose.

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 such recognition in the graduating classes of 2015, 2016, or 2017, a student must:

1. Have been continuously enrolled in the District high school for the four semesters immediately preceding graduation;
2. Have not been enrolled in or assigned to a disciplinary alternative education program (DAEP) or the options program during the four semesters preceding graduation [see FOC and the Student Code of Conduct]; and
3. Be graduating after exactly eight semesters of enrollment in high school.

Beginning with the graduating class of 2018, to be eligible for such recognition, a student must:

1. Have been continuously enrolled in the District high school for the four semesters immediately preceding graduation;
2. Have not been enrolled in or assigned to a DAEP or the options program during the four semesters preceding graduation [see FOC and the Student Code of Conduct];
3. Be graduating after exactly eight semesters of enrollment in high school; and
4. Have completed the foundation program with the distinguished level of achievement.

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*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.

*Breaking Ties* In case of a tie in weighted GPAs, the District shall apply the following methods, in this order, to determine recognition as valedictorian or salutatorian:

1. The weighted GPA shall be computed to a sufficient number of decimal places until the tie is broken.
2. If a tie still exists, the student with the most AP courses and dual credit courses shall be declared valedictorian.
3. If a tie still remains, the student with the highest numerical grade average of all AP, Pre-AP, and dual credit courses taken shall be declared valedictorian.

High Honor Graduates and Honor Graduates The District shall recognize as high honor graduates at the graduation ceremony all students whose weighted GPAs comprise the top ten percent of the students in the graduating class.

The District shall recognize as honor graduates at the graduation ceremony all students whose weighted GPAs fall within the category of 11 percent through 20 percent of the students in the graduating class.