

**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 and regardless of how many times a student has taken a specific course.

The calculation shall include failing grades.

**Weighted Grade
System**

The District shall categorize and weight eligible courses as Advanced and Regular in accordance with provisions of this policy and as designated in appropriate District publications.

Categories

Advanced

Eligible Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), Pre-AP, Pre-IB, and dual credit courses; advanced career and technical education (CTE) courses; and other courses locally designated as advanced shall be categorized and weighted as Advanced courses. However, no course for which credit is earned by examination, with or without prior instruction, shall be eligible for Advanced weight.

Regular

All other eligible courses, including any course for which credit is earned by examination, with or without prior instruction, shall be categorized and weighted as Regular courses.

Weighted Grade
Point Average

The District shall convert semester grades earned in eligible courses to grade points in accordance with the following chart and shall calculate a weighted grade point average (GPA):

Grade	Advanced	Regular
90–100	5.0	4.0
80–89	4.0	3.0
70–79	3.0	2.0
Below 70	0	0

Transferred Grades

When a student transfers semester grades for courses that would be eligible under the Regular 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 only if the same 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 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 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 same District high school for the four semesters immediately preceding graduation;
2. Be graduating after exactly eight semesters of enrollment in high school;
3. Have completed no later than March 1 any credits earned from a source other than the District; and
4. 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.

Highest-Ranking Graduate

The student (or students) meeting the local eligibility criteria for recognition as the valedictorian(s) shall also be considered the highest-ranking graduate(s) for purposes of receiving an honor graduate certificate from the state of Texas. If three or more eligible students are involved in a tie and recognized as co-valedictorians, however, the District shall declare a highest-ranking graduate in accordance with administrative regulations.