

Applicability	The following provisions apply to students enrolled on the Colorado High School campus.
Valedictorian and Salutatorian	The valedictorian and salutatorian shall be the eligible students with the highest and second-highest rank weighted numerical average, respectively, as determined by the District's class rank procedure described in this policy. To be eligible for valedictorian or salutatorian honors, a student must have been continuously enrolled in the District high school for the two years prior to graduation and must have completed the Recommended Program, the Advanced/Distinguished Achievement Program, or the foundation program with at least one endorsement. Final class rank shall be calculated at the end of the sixth six-week grading period for graduating seniors.
Early Graduates	A student graduating in less than eight semesters shall not be eligible for valedictorian or salutatorian honors.
Conduct	To qualify to give the valedictorian or salutatorian speech, a student shall not have engaged in any serious misconduct violation of the Student Code of Conduct, including removal to a DAEP, a three-day suspension, or expulsion during his or her last two semesters.
Class Rank and Grade Averages	<p>Class rank for senior students shall be calculated based on semester grades earned in grades 9–12 and in any high school course taken prior to ninth grade for which a student earned state graduation credit. The numeric semester average shall earn additional grade points in accordance with the District's weighted grade scale.</p> <p>Only letter grades or numerical grades earned in English, mathematics, science, social studies, speech, or languages other than English shall be included in the calculation of class rank. Grades earned in summer school or courses taken on an extended or accelerated time frame shall not be included in this calculation.</p> <p>Grades earned in dual credit courses shall be included in the calculation of class rank.</p>
Weighted Numerical Grade Average	<p>The District shall categorize and weight eligible courses as dual credit courses, high-level advanced courses, low-level advanced courses, and regular courses in accordance with provisions of this policy and as designated in appropriate District publications.</p> <p>The District shall assign weights to semester grades earned in eligible courses and calculate a weighted numerical grade average in accordance with the following:</p>

Category	Weight
Dual credit courses	plus 5
High-level advanced courses	plus 4
Low-level advanced courses	plus 2.5
Regular courses	plus 0

Only grades of 80 or above shall receive a grade weight.

Weighted numerical grade averages shall be calculated to the thousandth place.

Honor Graduates

For the purpose of determining all honors, except for valedictorian and salutatorian honors, to be conferred during graduation activities, the District shall calculate class rank at the end of the sixth six-week grading period of the senior year.

District honor graduates shall include:

1. Students who have completed the Recommended Program, the Advanced/Distinguished Achievement Program, or the foundation program with at least one endorsement and have earned a 96 or above weighted grade average. These students shall be recognized as magna cum laude graduates.
2. Students who have completed the Recommended Program, the Advanced/Distinguished Achievement Program, or the foundation program with at least one endorsement and have earned a 90–95.9 weighted grade average shall be recognized as cum laude graduates.

Rank for Early Graduates

A student who completes requirements for graduation in fewer than four years shall be ranked in the class with which he or she actually graduates.

Transfer Credit

A student who transfers into the District high school with higher-level course credits shall receive similar credits counted toward the grade average according to the list of higher-level courses offered in the District and the weighted grade scale used for credit earned in the District. However, honors or Advanced Placement (AP) courses from the previous school shall be awarded extra points in rank only if the District high school offers such courses.

Breaking Ties

In case of ties in weighted numerical average among top ranked students, the following methods shall be used to determine who shall be recognized as salutatorian or valedictorian and all students vying for honor graduate rank:

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
CLASS RANKING

EIC
(LOCAL)

1. The grade average shall be computed to a sufficient number of decimal places until the tie is broken.
2. If a tie still remains, the student with the most AP courses shall be considered first.
3. If a tie still remains, the student with the highest numerical grade average of all AP courses taken shall be considered highest ranked.
4. If a tie still remains, the students' scores on college entrance tests shall be compared if all tying students have taken the same tests.