

**Valedictorian and
Salutatorian**

The valedictorian and salutatorian shall be the eligible students with the highest and second highest ranking as determined by the District's class ranking procedures described in this policy. To be considered for valedictorian or salutatorian, a student shall have been enrolled continuously at the District high school for the two years immediately preceding graduation and shall have completed the Recommended or Advanced/Distinguished Achievement Program. Because of enrollment, academic, and disciplinary issues, as well as differences in course requirements, the highest ranking student may not necessarily be the valedictorian or salutatorian. In addition to class rank and the eligibility requirements listed above, the valedictorian and salutatorian shall also meet the following requirements:

1. The student shall maintain an overall average of at least 87 for the sixth six-week grading period of the senior year with no failing average in any subject. This average shall be determined 15 school days prior to graduation.
2. The student shall not have any major discipline offenses during his or her senior year. A student shall not have engaged in any serious misconduct or violation of the Student Code of Conduct, including removal to a disciplinary alternative education placement (DAEP), a three-day suspension, or expulsion.

**Class Rank
Calculation**

Class rank for students shall be calculated by averaging all semester grades earned in grades 9–12 and any high school course taken in grade 8 for which a student earned state graduation credit. The final official ranking for seniors shall be calculated after the fifth six-week grading period. The average of the fourth and fifth six-week grades shall be used as the semester grade for this purpose.

**Courses Included in
Class Rank
Calculation**

Course grades earned in the following areas shall be used to calculate a student's grade point average (GPA) and class rank: English/language arts, mathematics, science, social studies, health, languages other than English, computer science, career and technical education, fine arts, and any dual credit course.

**Courses Excluded
from Class Rank
Calculation**

Grades earned in local credit courses such as teacher aide, counselor aide, and office aide shall not be used in GPA or class rank calculation. In addition, athletics, physical education, band, choir, and traditional correspondence courses shall not be used in GPA or class rank calculation.

Advanced Courses

The District shall use a three-tiered system for calculating GPA and class rank. Tier 1 courses shall consist of those courses designated as honors or dual credit. The courses include Honors Chemistry, Honors Physics, Anatomy, Precalculus, Spanish IV, and dual credit courses approved by the District.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
CLASS RANKING

EIC
(LOCAL)

General Education “Core” Courses Tier 2 courses shall consist of general education courses for which students shall be required to master the essential competencies and skills designated for the course at the designated grade level.

Modified Courses Tier 3 courses utilized for the calculation of class rank shall include academic core courses in which the content, Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS), is modified. These courses shall include, but not be limited to, credit recovery.

Transfer Credit

A student transferring into the District shall receive the numerical grade that was earned in courses taken at another school. Letter grades shall be recorded as follows:

Letter grade	Numerical grade
A+	99
A	95
A-	92
B+	88
B	85
B-	81
C+	79
C	77
C-	70
F	69 or below

Early Graduates

A student’s class rank shall be determined within the graduating class of the school year in which the student completes all requirements for a diploma, regardless of the number of years the student is enrolled in high school. For ranking purposes, a school year begins on the first day of school and ends on the last day of summer school.

To be eligible to graduate early, a student shall complete all coursework and state testing required of the ninth grade class in which he or she began high school.

Mid-Year Graduates

Mid-year graduates shall be eligible to participate only in the next scheduled commencement ceremony. Students who have graduated shall no longer be eligible for any student privileges.

**Weighted Grade
Point Scale**

The semester grade averages shall earn points according to the District's weighted grade point scale within the designated level assigned to the course. The following scale shall be used by the District:

Grade	Tier 1 Advanced Courses	Tier 2 General Education "Core" Curriculum	Tier 3 Modified Curriculum
100	5.0	4.0	3.0
99	4.9	3.9	2.9
98	4.8	3.8	2.8
97	4.7	3.7	2.7
96	4.6	3.6	2.6
95	4.5	3.5	2.5
94	4.4	3.4	2.4
93	4.3	3.3	2.3
92	4.2	3.2	2.2
91	4.1	3.1	2.1
90	4.0	3.0	2.0
89	3.9	2.9	1.9
88	3.8	2.8	1.8
87	3.7	2.7	1.7
86	3.6	2.6	1.6
85	3.5	2.5	1.5
84	3.4	2.4	1.4
83	3.3	2.3	1.3
82	3.2	2.2	1.2
81	3.1	2.1	1.1
80	3.0	2.0	1.0
79	2.9	1.9	0.9

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
CLASS RANKING

EIC
(LOCAL)

Grade	Tier 1 Advanced Courses	Tier 2 General Education "Core" Curriculum	Tier 3 Modified Curriculum
78	2.8	1.8	0.8
77	2.7	1.7	0.7
76	2.6	1.6	0.6
75	2.5	1.5	0.5
74	2.4	1.4	0.4
73	2.3	1.3	0.3
72	2.2	1.2	0.2
71	2.1	1.1	0.1
70	2.0	1.0	0.1
Below 70	0	0	0