

## PROPOSED POLICY

**CLASS RANK** A student's class rank shall not be calculated or reported except for the top ten percent of a given class. The District shall provide students ranked in the top ten percent a certification of class rank containing the students' numerical rank in class.

**REPORTING PERIOD** Beginning with the 2010–11 school year, weighted academic class rank shall be determined and reported to students for the first time at the end of the fall semester of the sophomore year and at the end of every semester thereafter.

After each calculation period, students in the top ten percent shall be told their exact class rank. The lowest weighted grade point average (GPA) earned by a student currently in the top ten percent of the class shall be communicated to all students in the class after each calculation period.

**VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN** The valedictorian and salutatorian shall be the students with the highest and second highest weighted GPA as determined by the District's calculation procedures described in this policy. In addition, the students must have been continuously enrolled in a District high school for the four semesters preceding graduation.

Beginning with students who enter grade 9 in the 2011–12 school year, the valedictorian and salutatorian shall be determined using the weighted GPA described in this policy. In addition, the students must have been continuously enrolled in a District high school for the four semesters preceding graduation.

**TIES – COPPELL HIGH SCHOOL** In case of a tie, the following criteria shall be used to break the tie. These criteria are listed in order of use and shall be used sequentially to the extent necessary to break a tie:

1. Totaling the number of AP and IB courses successfully completed.
2. Computing the GPA of all AP and IB courses successfully completed.
3. Computing the weighted grade average to a sufficient number of decimal places to break the tie.

If the tie remains unbroken, coaledictorians shall be declared, and no salutatorian shall be recognized. Should a tie remain for salutatorian, all those tying shall be recognized.

TIES – NEW TECH  
HIGH @ COPPELL

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT  
CLASS RANKING

EIC  
(LOCAL)

In case of a tie, the following criteria shall be used to break the tie. These criteria are listed in order of use and shall be used sequentially to the extent necessary to break a tie:

1. Computing the GPA from extrapolated content grades from all courses used in calculating GPA.
2. Computing the GPA from extrapolated content grades from core courses.
3. Ranking the evaluation of the senior projects.

If the tie remains unbroken, coaledictorians shall be declared, and no salutatorian shall be recognized. Should a tie remain for salutatorian, all those tying shall be recognized.

TOP TEN PERCENT

All students whose grade point averages comprise the top ten percent of the graduating class shall be recognized. Eligibility standards used in determining valedictorian and salutatorian shall not apply to the calculation of class rank for automatic admission to institutions of higher education. The weighted GPA shall be reported on the student's transcript as required by TEA and made available in accordance with the application deadline when requested by the student. [See EIC(LEGAL)]

EARLY GRADUATION

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

WEIGHTED GRADE  
POINT AVERAGE  
CALCULATION

Each student shall be informed of his or her weighted GPA, not class rank, as described above at REPORTING PERIOD.

STUDENTS ENTERING  
GRADE 9 BEFORE  
2009-10

A student who entered grade 9 before the 2009-10 school year shall have his or her weighted GPA calculated by averaging semester grades earned in grades 9-12 and any high school course taken prior to ninth grade for which the student earned state graduation credit.

EXCLUSIONS

For students who entered grade 9 before the 2009-10 school year, correspondence courses, credit by examination (with or without prior instruction), and summer school courses for credit recovery shall not be included. Physical education, band, choral music, driver's education, office aide, counselor aide, athletics, drill team, cheerleading, and any local credit courses shall also be excluded from the calculation of a student's weighted GPA.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT  
CLASS RANKING

EIC  
(LOCAL)

STUDENTS ENTERING GRADE 9 IN 2009–10 AND 2010–11 A student who entered grade 9 in the 2009–2010 or 2010–11 school year shall have his or her weighted GPA calculated by averaging semester grades earned in grades 9–12 and any high school course taken prior to grade 9 for which a student earned state graduation credit. Additionally, grades earned through credit by examination (with or without instruction), correspondence courses, and summer school courses taken for original credit or credit recovery shall be included in the calculation for weighted GPA.

EXCLUSIONS Grades earned in physical education, band, choral music, driver’s education, office aide, counselor aide, athletics, drill team, cheer-leading, and any local credit courses shall not be included in the calculation for weighted GPA.

STUDENTS ENTERING GRADE 9 IN 2011–12 AND THEREAFTER Beginning with students who enter grade 9 in the 2011–12 school year, the weighted GPA shall be calculated by averaging the semester grades earned in every class for which state credit is awarded or could be awarded.

The top ten percent, including the valedictorian and salutatorian, shall be determined using weighted semester grades earned in the five core areas of English, mathematics, science, social studies, and languages other than English. The eligible courses shall be listed in the student handbook and course catalog.

Credits earned in the five core areas, including credits earned through credit by examination or distance learning, shall be used in calculating a student’s weighted GPA.

WEIGHTED GRADE SCALE A student’s weighted GPA shall be calculated to the fourth decimal place using the following weighted grade point scale:

Grades	Level IV AP, some IB, and other designated courses	Level III Pre-AP, Dual Credit, some IB and other designated courses	Level II On Grade Level courses	Level I Modified Curriculum and other designated courses
97–100	6.0	5.5	5.0	4.0
94–96	5.8	5.3	4.8	3.8
90–93	5.6	5.1	4.6	3.6
87–89	5.4	4.9	4.4	3.4
84–86	5.2	4.7	4.2	3.2
80–83	5.0	4.5	4.0	3.0

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT  
CLASS RANKING

EIC  
(LOCAL)

77-79	4.8	4.3	3.8	2.8
74-76	4.6	4.1	3.6	2.6
71-73	4.4	3.9	3.4	2.4
70	4.2	3.7	3.2	2.2

DUAL CREDIT  
COURSES

Grades from dual credit courses shall be converted to grade points according to the District's course-level designation for the year the student entered grade 9. The following scale shall be used:

A	5.5
B	4.9
C	4.3
D	3.7

TRANSFER STUDENTS

A student who transfers into a District high school shall receive the grades that were earned in courses at other schools. Higher-level course credits earned shall receive grade points according to the list of higher-level courses offered at the receiving high school and the grade point scale used at the receiving high school. If a transfer student earned a higher-level credit (such as Level III or Level IV) for a course and the receiving high school does not offer that same course at the same higher level, then the transfer student's transcript at the receiving high school shall only reflect the level of the course as it is offered at the receiving high school. Letter grades shall be converted as follows:

Conversion Chart

A+	98	B+	88	C+	78	D	70
A	95	B	85	C	75	F	60
A-	93	B-	83	C-	73		