

Hallsville Independent School District

For the Consideration of the Board of Trustees

Date of Board Meeting: April 20, 2026

Agenda Item#: _____

Topic: Revision of EIC(LOCAL) - Valedictorian and Salutatorian

Background and Rationale:

Texas Virtual Academy at Hallsville (TVAH) is requesting that EIC (LOCAL) be amended to reflect necessary TVAH Valedictorian and Salutatorian changes.

From this:

Prior to the Class of 2028:

To be eligible for this local graduation honor, a student must have been continuously enrolled in TVAH for his or her entire junior and senior year and be graduating *after exactly eight semesters of enrollment in high school*.

To this:

Class of 2028:

To be eligible for this local graduation honor, a student must have been continuously enrolled in TVAH for his or her entire final two years in high school.

Due to our student make-up, this would allow early graduates to receive these honors.

Relationship to Strategic Plan: Student Success

Personnel Affected:

N/A

Budget Implications:

N/A

Recommendation: TVAH is recommending that the board approve the amendments to local policy as presented.

Julie Smith

Signature

(Person Bringing Information to the Board)



Superintendent's Signature

PROPOSED REVISIONS, page 4 (revised)

**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, unless excluded below [see Exclusions].

The class rank calculation shall not include semester grades from a course that is retaken after a passing grade has been earned, and the new grade shall not be recorded on the transcript.

Exclusions

The calculation shall include failing grades.

With the exception of students enrolled in the Texas Virtual Academy at Hallsville (TVAH), the calculation of class rank shall also exclude grades earned in high school courses taken prior to grade 9, except for grades earned in Algebra I and Spanish I, unless those courses are designated in accordance with the District's weighted grade scale and District policy in the calculation of weighted grade point average (GPA).

**Weighted Grade
System**

Categories

The District shall categorize and weight eligible courses as Advanced Placement (AP), Advanced, Regular, and Basic in accordance with provisions of this policy and as designated in appropriate District publications.

The principal, with the assistance of a committee of teachers and the school counselor, shall determine which additional courses shall be assigned to the Advanced, Regular, or Basic categories. Decisions shall be based on an assessment of the content, scope, and difficulty of the materials for the course, particularly in relation to the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) established by the State Board of Education.

AP

Eligible Advance Placement (AP) courses shall be categorized as AP courses.

Advanced

Eligible Honors and dual credit courses shall be categorized as Advanced.

*Regular and
Basic*

Other eligible courses shall be categorized and weighted as Regular or Basic courses, as appropriate.

Modified Courses

For purposes of determining class rank for honor positions, a student's admission, review, and dismissal (ARD) committee may determine for a student with disabilities that the content of a course, the TEKS, has been modified to such an extent that the course should receive the weight of a Basic course

Grade	AP	Advanced	Regular	Basic
100	6.5	6.0	5.0	4.0

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
CLASS RANKING

EIC
(LOCAL)

99	6.4	5.9	4.9	3.9
98	6.3	5.8	4.8	3.8
97	6.2	5.7	4.7	3.7
96	6.1	5.6	4.6	3.6
95	6.0	5.5	4.5	3.5
94	5.9	5.4	4.4	3.4
93	5.8	5.3	4.3	3.3
92	5.7	5.2	4.2	3.2
91	5.6	5.1	4.1	3.1
90	5.5	5.0	4.0	3.0
89	5.4	4.9	3.9	2.9
88	5.3	4.8	3.8	2.8
87	5.2	4.7	3.7	2.7
86	5.1	4.6	3.6	2.6
85	5.0	4.5	3.5	2.5
84	4.9	4.4	3.4	2.4
83	4.8	4.3	3.3	2.3
82	4.7	4.3	3.2	2.2
81	4.6	4.1	3.1	2.1
80	4.5	4.0	3.0	2.0
79	4.4	3.9	2.9	1.9
78	4.3	3.8	2.8	1.8
77	4.2	3.7	2.7	1.7
76	4.1	3.6	2.6	1.6
75	4.0	3.5	2.5	1.5
74	3.9	3.4	2.4	1.4
73	3.8	3.3	2.3	1.3
72	3.7	3.2	2.2	1.2
71	3.6	3.1	2.1	1.1
70	3.5	3.0	2.0	1.0
0-69	0	0	0	0

Transferred Grades When a student transfers semester grades for courses (from any Texas public school or a private school accredited by an organization recognized by the commissioner of education) 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 (from any Texas public school or a private school accredited by an organization recognized by the commissioner) 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.

Transferred grades earned in AP/International Baccalaureate (IB) or other higher-level courses shall earn weighted grade points if a comparable AP/IB or higher-level course was available to students who were enrolled at the District high school at the time a transferring student earned the higher-level course credit.

**Letter-Grade
Conversion**

Transferred letter grades shall be converted as follows:

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

**Local Graduation
Honors**

Except as provided in this policy, 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 fall semester of the senior year.

For students enrolled in the TVAH, local honors to be conferred during graduation activities shall be determined by calculating class rank in accordance with this policy and administrative regulations by using grades available at the end of the of the spring semester 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 have been continuously enrolled in the District high school for his or her entire junior and senior year and be graduating after exactly eight semesters of enrollment in high school.

TVAH
Valedictorian and
Salutatorian

The TVAH 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 have been continuously enrolled in TVAH for his or her entire junior and senior year and be graduating after exactly eight semesters of enrollment in high school.

Beginning with students in the graduating class of 2028, the TVAH 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 have been continuously enrolled in TVAH for his or her entire final two years in high school.

Breaking Ties

In case of a tie in weighted GPAs after calculation to the third decimal place, the District shall recognize all students involved in the tie as sharing the honor and title.

Honor Graduates

The District shall recognize as honor graduates all students with a cumulative weighted GPA of at least 4.6 who have completed the foundation graduation program with endorsement and distinguished level of achievement.

Highest-Ranking Graduate

The local eligibility criteria for recognition as the valedictorian shall not affect recognition of the highest-ranking graduate for purposes of receiving the honor graduate certificate from the state of Texas.

Midyear Graduates

The District shall calculate class rank for this purpose at the end of the school year.

A student shall be allowed to graduate at the end of the fall term if he or she completes all graduation requirements.

A student who graduates at the end of the fall term shall be ranked among the students who will graduate during the spring. Rank shall be based on the weighted GPA at the end of the fall term.

Midyear graduates shall only be eligible to participate in the next scheduled commencement ceremony. As graduates, they shall no longer be eligible for any student privileges.

Summer Graduates

A student who graduates during the summer shall be ranked with his or her spring membership cohort. Summer graduates shall be eligible to participate in the next scheduled commencement ceremony.