Beginning freshman year of high school, students will receive a class rank based on their grade-point average (GPA). Each year, class rank of graduating senior students shall be calculated on the basis of their grade point average (GPA) at the end of the first semester preceding graduation. Effective for incoming grade 9 students as of the 2017–18 school year, the GPA shall only include semester averages of courses taken and completed in grades 9–12 for credit, except for some special education courses that may not be used in calculating class rank. [See the School Guidelines.]

Students are ranked based on their current grade level at the time of the ranking. The semester and cumulative GPA for freshmen, sophomores, and juniors will be calculated at the end of each semester and will appear on students' report cards and transcripts at the end of each respective semester. Preliminary student rankings shall be calculated at the end of each spring semester and will be inclusive of all eligible coursework completed and posted on transcripts up until that point. The most recently generated preliminary rankings shall appear on students’ report cards and transcripts.

Seniors will have their GPA and preliminary rankings recalculated to include all coursework completed since the junior preliminary ranking no later than the first Friday in October, which will also be included on their report cards and transcripts beginning this date. Mid-year reports requested by colleges as part of students’ college applications shall be submitted to college institutions no later than the third Friday of January. These mid-year reports will include grades for all courses completed and posted to transcripts through the prior semester and shall include the ranking generated in October. Each year, the final class rank of graduating senior students shall be calculated and made available on students’ transcripts at the end of the first semester preceding graduation and no later than February 15.

Weighted-Course Type

All Pre-Advanced Placement (Pre-AP) and International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program (IBMYP) high school level courses, and all AP, IB, dual enrollment, and dual credit courses that have been approved by their respective accrediting organizations shall receive weighted-course credit.

The only other high school courses that shall be considered to receive weighted credit shall be in content areas for which there are no Pre-AP, IBMYP, AP, IB, or dual credit course titles and that are requested by and approved for specific campuses and have received Board approval.

Dual credit courses, having not received weighted-course credit in the past, shall begin receiving weighted-course credit in the fall se-
mester of 2015. No weighted-course credit shall be given retroac-
tively.

In the event that a course is offered under multiple categories as
Pre-AP, IB MYP, AP, IB, dual enrollment, and dual credit at the
same school, the categorization best aligned to the student’s en-
dorsements and diploma program shall be the deciding factor.

Weights

Grades received in courses shall be weighted as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Regular Courses</th>
<th>Weighted Courses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A (90–100)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B (80–89)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C (75–79)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D (70–74)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F (to 69)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Percentile ranks shall be established for each school by dividing
the total number of students in the regular graduating class by the
appropriate percentile. Effective for incoming grade 9 and grade 10
students as of the 2019–2020 school year, to be ranked within the
top 15%, a student must be enrolled in the school from which he or
she is graduating from the first day of the junior academic year,
with the exception of students classified as migrant or homeless, in
foster care, or with a parent who was relocated due to military ser-
vice after the first day of the junior academic year. Students who do
not fall in these categories but with exceptional circumstances may
appeal to the District registrar for consideration no later than 10
calendar days after the rankings have been issued. The decision of
the Registrar’s Office is final.

The student with the highest GPA, whether in the regular or mag-
net program, shall receive valedictorian honors; the student with
the second-highest GPA shall be salutatorian. To be eligible for the
valedictorian or salutatorian honors or the Highest Ranking Senior
Certificate beginning in the 2016–2017 academic year at a particu-
lar school, a student must have been enrolled in the school from
the first day of the junior academic school year per this policy, ef-
flective as of August 11, 2017. Determination of which student is
named “highest ranking graduate” at each high school is a decision
which rests strictly with the District. All incoming juniors are re-
quired to meet the School Guidelines’ requirement to qualify for
valedictorian or salutatorian honors.

To be eligible for such recognition, a student must:
• Have been enrolled in the same District high school from which he/she the student is graduating from the first day of
school in his/her junior academic year;
• Be scheduled to graduate in May or June at the end of
his/her regular academic year;
• Graduate on the Distinguished Level of Achievement Pro-
gram

The above rules do not apply to students classified as migrant,
homeless, in foster care, or with a parent who was relocated due to
military service after the first day of the junior academic year. Stud-
ents in those exceptional circumstances shall be eligible for vale-
dictoriar and salutatorian honors without any term of enrollment or
residency requirements. Students completing all graduation re-
quirements and state assessments (no opportunity for Individual
Graduation Committee) in three years are eligible to receive Vale-
dictoriar or Salutatoriar honors. Students who do not fall in these
categories but with exceptional circumstances may appeal to the
District registrar for consideration no later than 10 calendar days
after the rankings have been issued. The decision of the Regis-
trar’s Office is final.

these honors, the student shall have been enrolled in the school
from which he or she is graduating from the first day of the junior
academic year, with the exception of students classified as mi-
grant, homeless, in foster care, or with a parent in the military. Stu-
dents in those exceptional circumstances shall be eligible for vale-
dictoriar and salutatorian honors without any term of enrollment or
residency requirements.

Honor Students
To be eligible for academic honors, a student shall have main-
tained an average of at least “B” and earned his or her last 5
credits at the school in which the awards are presented.

The top five percent of the graduating class shall be designated as
graduating with Highest Honors.

The next highest ten percent of the graduating class shall be desig-
nated as graduating with Honors.

Effective Date
This policy shall be effective as of August 11, 2017.