

# Laude System

Everything you need to know about the academic system at Lodi High School

# Why Doesn't Lodi use Class Rank?

## Class Rank as a Statistic

- Class rank could be a very valid statistic if every student took the same set of classes with the same set of teachers.
- The validity of using class rank to compare students among various school districts is nonexistent.

# Impact on Students

Class rank can result in:

- Avoidance of challenging classes
- Excessive competition with classmates
- Unwillingness to take academic and intellectual risks
- May even hurt students for college admissions

# Effect on College Admissions

While class rank is only one element of college admissions, without it the other elements increase in importance.

- Rigor of courses taken
- Strength of grades in relation to rigor
- College admissions test scores (ACT/SAT)
- Activities
- Recommendations
- Essays

# Laude system

A tiered system that recognizes students for the rigor of their academic program as well as their success in the program.

- **Summa Cum Laude** (Laude Score  $\geq 60.000$ )
- **Magna Cum Laude** (Laude Score = 45.000 - 59.999)
- **Cum Laude** (Laude Score = 30.000 - 44.999)
- No recognition (Laude Score  $< 30.000$ )

Laude Score = Cumulative GPA x Laude Points

Laude Points are earned by passing rigorous courses. All LHS departments have qualifying “Honors” or “Advanced” courses.

# Benefits of Laude System

- Motivates students to challenge themselves academically
- Places focus on courses taken rather than grades earned
- Measures students against a standard rather than against each other
- Removes class rank from being a factor in college admission decisions

# Laude system examples

	<u>Student 1</u>
<b>Laude Score:</b>	3.556 x 14.5 = 51.562 (Magna Cum Laude)
<b>Laude Points:</b>	
	Honors Lit 0.5
	AP Hum Geo 1.0
	Honors Science 9 0.5
	Honors World Lit 0.5
	AP World History 1.0
	Honors Biology 0.5
	AP Eng Lang 1.0
	AP US History 1.0
	Honors Chemistry 0.5
	AP Eng Lit 1.0
	AP Psychology 1.0
	AP Biology 1.0
	Math 4 1.0
	Music (8 sem + capstone) 1.0
	Spanish 3 1.0
	Spanish 4 1.0
	AP Spanish 1.0

	<u>Student 2</u>
	3.868 x 5.5 = 21.274
	AP Eng Lang 1.0
	Math 4 1.0
	AP Psychology 1.0
	Spanish 3 1.0
	Spanish 4 1.0
	Chefs 0.5

Laude Points have a much more significant impact than GPA does!

# Ken O'Connor says...

“Class rank is the worst statistic in education.”