

- The plan must be documented in writing with a copy provided to the student's parent or guardian.
- Educational plans must be in place by the start of the subsequent school year.
- The admission, review and dismissal committee of a student who participates in the district's special education program, and who does not perform satisfactorily on an assessment instrument must meet to determine the manner in which the student will participate in an accelerated instruction program.

F. Academic Credit for Middle School Coursework

Students who successfully complete high school coursework in middle school with a grade of "70" or better will receive credit toward high school graduation. Each semester grade and the credit earned will be recorded on the transcript but will **not** be included in the student's grade point average or class rank. Class-ranking grade points are not counted until 9th grade. High school courses taken in middle school can be repeated in high school if the original grade earned was 85 or less.

G. Grade Point Average (GPA)

- Is determined by dividing the total grade points by the number of semester courses.
- Both grades, the failing grade and the retake grade, for courses repeated to regain credit are included in calculating the GPA.
- Only courses taken in high school during the regular school day will be counted for GPA purposes. This means such courses as original credit summer school courses, correspondence courses, and on-line courses not taken during the school day will count for credit but not for GPA. The only exception is for courses that have to be repeated due to failure, which are included in GPA regardless of setting.
- Grades from high school courses brought forward from middle school do not count in high school GPA.

Class Rank and GPA are calculated using the semester averages from ninth, tenth, eleventh, and first semester of the twelfth grade.

H. Weighted Letter/Numerical Grades

Credit requirements for graduation must all be **state-approved**. The calculation of a high school student's grade point average for rank in class is based on grade points assigned as follows:

Level	A	B	C	D	F
Numeric Grade	90-100	80-89	75-79	70-74	69 & below
Advanced (P, Q, H I, D) *	7	6	5	4	0
Grade Level	6	5	4	3	0
Basic/Functional	4	3	2	1	0

* P – Advanced Placement

Q – Pre-Advanced Placement (*Only available through the 2020-2021 school year*)

H – **Advanced Academic Course (AAC)**

I – International Baccalaureate (IB)

D – Dual Credit

Weighted grade points (P, Q, H, I, D) may be awarded for only one course in each of the four core curricular areas (English, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies) per year in grades 9-12.

I. Class Rank

Academic Achievement Class Ranking [[Board Policy EIC \(LOCAL\)](#)]

In addition to the designation of a valedictorian and a salutatorian of the graduating class, there shall be designated honor students to be recognized at the commencement exercises as follows:

- a. Graduating magna cum laude—the upper five percent of the class
- b. Graduating cum laude—the next highest ten percent of the class

The class rank for a graduating student shall not be officially reported on a student's academic transcript, with the exception of a student in the top ten percent of the class as required by law, unless the student requests in writing on or before October 15 of each school year to have his or her class rank reported. For students who request inclusion of class rank on their transcripts, class rank shall be determined by a weighted grade point system established by the District, and grades earned in approved District distance learning/virtual courses taken as part of the normal course load (the number of periods in a normal school day as established by each campus) shall be included in the calculation of class rank. Grades earned in approved District distance learning/virtual courses in excess of the normal course load shall not be included in this calculation.

J. Honor Graduate Certificate and Declaration

In accordance with the *Texas Education Code* and [Board Policy EIC \(LOCAL\)](#), the governing board of each institution of higher education may issue scholarships each year to the highest ranking graduate of each accredited high school of this state, exempting the graduates from the payment of tuition during both semesters of the first regular session immediately following their graduation.

When a high school has more than one student qualifying for top honors, the high school principal shall select a committee to determine which student tying for valedictorian honors at the principal's high school will be awarded the honor graduate certificate and declaration.

The committee shall have the option of considering the following criteria in reviewing the applicants:

1. All students qualifying for valedictorian honors who plan to attend a state-supported college or university.
2. The numerical average of each student's grades in previous years.
3. SAT scores taken by each student during his or her high school career.
4. An essay written by each student on a topic of the committee's choice.
5. Documented community service hours performed by each student during his or her high school career.
6. The number of District courses completed by each student during his or her high school career.

The committee shall document the procedure used to identify the top honor graduate.