

DaVinci Academy of Science and The Arts

Policy Number: 205

Policy Section: 200 - Instruction

POLICY TITLE: Valedictorian, Salutatorian and The DaVincian Policy

Revision History

Effective Date	Action Date	Revised
12 December 2007	New Policy	New Policy

Valedictorian, Salutatorian and The DaVincian Policy

Effective Date: 11 December 2007

Revision Date:

1. PURPOSE

1.1 To establish a policy regarding requirements for Valedictorian and Salutatorian of the graduating class for DaVinci Academy; and to introduce The DaVincian award for the DaVinci Academy.

2. DEFINITIONS

Valedictorian: The valedictorian is the student with the highest scholastic standing of those students who have attended DaVinci Academy for three (3) years.

Salutatorian: The student with the second highest scholastic standing of those students who have attended DaVinci Academy for three (3) years.

The DaVincian: The student who most embodies the DaVinci ideals.

3. GENERAL POLICY

3.1 Criteria for Valedictorian and Salutatorian.

The following criterion will be utilized in evaluating and comparing the top 15% of the senior class. Number one will be the initial comparison. If there is a tie, then number two will be the second comparison. If there is still a tie, then number three will be the third comparison.

1. Weighted GPA (refer to Assessment Policy for Weighting Formula)
2. Rigor of courses completed
3. Citizenship/Attendance

3.2 The student having the highest scholastic standing will be named valedictorian and the student having the second highest scholastic standing will be named salutatorian. The cumulative weighted grade point average as of the end of the 2nd term of the students' senior year will determine these positions. Only those students who have been enrolled at DaVinci Academy for at least three (3) years are eligible to be considered for these honors.

3.3 Students who have either been suspended or expelled for any reason may not be eligible for either valedictorian or salutatorian. Students who have a U or an N in any class may not be eligible either.

3.4 Only grades transferred from accredited high schools will be considered when looking at students who did not wholly attend DaVinci Academy.

3.5 If after all the criterion are met and there is a tie, then the students will share the honor.

4. REQUIREMENTS FOR VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN SPEAKERS

4.1 Graduation Speech: Valedictorian and Salutatorian are expected to give a speech at the graduation ceremonies for a maximum of 15 minutes. Students must present a written copy of their speech to the Graduation Committee to make sure it is appropriate in context and form.

5. CRITERIA FOR THE DAVINCIAN AWARD.

5.1 Students eligible for this honor award have shown their commitment by attending DaVinci Academy for as many of their 4-high school years as possible.

5.2 They must have completed a wide range, balanced curriculum of classes, but may not necessarily have been the highest grade receiver in those classes.

5.3 Students to be considered for this honor must be nominated by either a fellow senior or by an administrator or faculty member.

5.4 Consideration will also be given to the amount and type of community service given by students nominated for this honor.

5.5 This student is the student who most represents the ideals, vision and mission of DaVinci.

6. PROCEDURE FOR SELECTION OF THE DAVINCIAN AWARD.

6.1 Nominations will be collected by the school counselor and/or the school director at the end of the 2nd trimester.

6.2 Administration, faculty and staff will meet to evaluate candidates and they will make a decision according to the criterion in section 5.

6.3 The chosen student will be notified by April 1st to allow time enough to prepare their speech.

7. REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DAVINCIAN AWARD

7.1 Graduation Speech: The Davincian is expected to give a speech at the graduation ceremonies for a maximum of 15 minutes. The student must present a written copy of their speech to the Graduation Committee to make sure it is appropriate in context and form.