

**Students Who  
Entered High School  
in August 2017 and  
After**

The following provisions will apply for students who entered high school in August 2017 and after.

Grade Points

Grade points will be assigned as follows:

| <b>Grade</b>     | <b>Advanced</b> | <b>Regular</b> | <b>Modified</b> |
|------------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 95–100 (A+)      | 5 points        | 4 points       | 3 points        |
| 90–94 (A-)       | 4.5 points      | 3.5 points     | 2.5 points      |
| 85–89 (B+)       | 4 points        | 3 points       | 2 points        |
| 80–84 (B-)       | 3.5 points      | 2.5 points     | 1.5 points      |
| 77–79 (C+)       | 3 points        | 2 points       | 1 point         |
| 75–76 (C)        | 2.5 points      | 1.5 points     | 1 point         |
| 72–74 (C)        | 2 points        | 1 point        | 0 points        |
| 70–71 (C-)       | 1.5 points      | 1 point        | 0 points        |
| Less than 70 (F) | 0 points        | 0 points       | 0 points        |

Decisions on the level of courses taken by a student will be made on a case-by-case basis and do not depend on any special programs in which a student is enrolled.

Modified

Modified courses have a significantly reduced coverage of content through the TEKS or have a significantly reduced mastery or performance level. Modified courses are scored on a 3-point GPA scale.

Any course required for graduation in the core academics or fine arts areas at any campus could be classified as a modified course.

Regular

Regular courses address all the content required by the TEKS. Regular courses include most traditional academic courses and electives. Regular courses are scored on a 4-point GPA scale. For purposes of this policy, any credits earned by examination or through a correspondence course will be classified as a Regular course and receive Regular grade points.

Advanced

Advanced courses include increased rigor and higher academic requirements, so they are scored on a 5-point GPA scale. Advanced courses include those designated as AP, IBDP, dual credit, honors, or any course leading to the potential award of college credit.

An Advanced course cannot be repeated for additional grade points. If any Advanced course is repeated, Advanced grade points will only be awarded the first time the course is taken. Subsequent credits will be scored using Regular grade points.

A student may drop from an Advanced course to a comparable Regular course during the first or second six-week grading period in a semester. In doing so, the student will receive Regular grade points for the semester. To compensate for the reduction in grade points, the receiving teacher in the Regular course will adjust the incoming student's grades according to the table below:

| <b>Grade in Advanced Course at the Time the Course is Dropped</b> | <b>Adjusted Grade to be Recorded by the Receiving Teacher of the Regular Course</b> |
|---|---|
| 90–94   | 95  |
| 85–89   | 90  |
| 80–84   | 85  |
| 77–79   | 80  |
| 75–76   | 77  |
| 72–74   | 75  |
| 70–71   | 72  |
| 60–69   | 70  |
| 0–59  | 60  |

**Class Rank GPA**

For each student whose GPA exceeds 4.0, his or her class rank will be determined by the final class rank GPA, which is determined using the following method.

The class rank GPA will be the average of all the grade points earned in the following courses:

- English I, English II, English III, and English IV.
- Geometry, Algebra II, and two additional mathematics courses:
  - The 2 additional mathematics credits can come from any combination of two courses from the following list: Pre-calculus, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, AP Statistics, IB Math Studies, IB Math SL, IB Math HL, Independent Study in Mathematics (which must include one semester

of dual credit College Algebra), Advanced Quantitative Reasoning, Algebraic Reasoning, and Math Models.

- By the end of a student's senior year, if he or she is scheduled to complete more than two mathematics courses from the list above, then District officials will select the two additional mathematics courses with the highest grade points to count in the final calculation of class rank GPA.
- Biology, Chemistry or Integrated Physics and Chemistry, and two additional science courses:
  - The 2 additional science credits can come from any combination of two courses from the following list: IBDP Biology (Year One), IBDP Chemistry (Year One), IBDP Biology (Year Two), IBDP Chemistry (Year Two), AP Biology, Principles of Technology, Physics, AP Physics I, AP Physics II, AP Environmental Science, AP Chemistry, AP Physics C, Earth and Space Science, Anatomy and Physiology, dual enrollment Earth, Wind, and Fire, Forensic Science, Environmental Systems, Medical Microbiology, Scientific Research and Design, and Advanced Animal Science.
  - By the end of a student's senior year, if he or she is scheduled to complete more than two science courses from the list above, then District officials will select the two additional science courses with the highest grade points to count in the final calculation of class rank GPA.
- World Geography or World History (if World Geography is not taken), U.S. History, Government, Economics, and 1 additional social studies credit:
  - The additional social studies credit will be determined by any course from the following list: AP U.S. History (if not already counted as the U.S. History credit above), IB History of the Americas (Year One), Dual Credit U.S. History, AP European History, AP Human Geography, Psychology, and Sociology (if both are taken for one semester each), and World History (if not already counted above).
  - By the end of a student's senior year, if he or she is scheduled to complete more than one credit from this list above, then District officials will select the social studies course with the highest grade points to count in the final calculation of class rank GPA.

- Two levels of the same language other than English:
  - By the end of a student’s senior year, if he or she is scheduled to complete more than two levels of the same language other than English, then District officials will select the courses with the highest grade points to count in the final calculation of class rank GPA. (For example, this could include Spanish I and II, or Spanish II and III, or Spanish I and III.)
- One additional advanced course:
  - District officials will select an additional advanced course with the highest grade points not previously used to count in the final calculation of class rank GPA. The selection must use two semesters of the same course.

Therefore, the class rank GPA is determined based on a total of 38 semester grades (eight from English, eight from mathematics, eight from science, eight from social studies, four from languages other than English, and two additional semester grades from an additional advanced course).

If a student with an initial GPA of 4.0 or above does not complete any of the 38 semester grades listed above, then a score of zero grade points will be used for these semesters in the final calculation of the class rank GPA.

Graduation Honors

Through the spring of 2024, the District shall recognize as an honor graduate each student who has a weighted initial GPA of 4.0 or above.

Through the spring of 2024, the top ten highest-ranking students as determined by the final class rank GPA at each high school shall be honored during graduation.

Starting with the graduating class of 2025, the District shall make the following recognitions at the graduation ceremony.

- Each student who has a final class rank GPA of 4.0 or above will be considered an “Honor Graduate” and have an asterisk (\*) next to the student’s name in the printed program.
- Students in the top 10 percent of their graduating class will be considered “Graduates with Distinction” and will be seated alphabetically in a separate section. They will also be corded and recognized in the printed program according to the tiers below.
  - Cum Laude—Top 10 percent of the graduating class

- Magna Cum Laude—Top 6 percent of the graduating class
- Summa Cum Laude—Top 3 percent of the graduating class
- The students who are named the valedictorian and salutatorian will be seated on the stage with other speakers and distinguished guests.

For calculation of the top 10 percent for graduation honors, the class size will be set by the number of students in the senior class (12th grade) as of the fall PEIMS snapshot date (last Friday in October).

Reporting

For reporting GPA and rank to colleges on a student's transcript, the following procedures will be used:

*End of Grade 9*

Initial GPA, as computed in Skyward, appears on transcripts, along with the associated rank.

*End of Grade 10*

Initial GPA, as computed in Skyward, appears on transcripts, along with the associated rank.

*Middle of Grade 11*

Initial GPA will be computed in Skyward.

At this time, for students with an Initial GPA  $\geq 4.0$ , campus staff will:

1. Utilize the Class Rank GPA report generated by Skyward.
2. Re-rank applicable students using the Class Rank GPA.
3. Manually overwrite (in Skyward) the initial GPA with the Class Rank GPA, and overwrite the rank based on step 2 (above).

For these students, the Class Rank GPA will then appear on official transcripts, along with the associated rank. This information will be used for reporting the top 10 percent of the class.

*End of Grade 11*

Initial GPA will be computed in Skyward.

At this time, for students with an initial GPA  $\geq 4.0$ , District staff will:

1. Utilize the Class Rank GPA report generated by Skyward.
2. Re-rank applicable students using the Class Rank GPA.
3. Manually overwrite (in Skyward) the initial GPA with the Class Rank GPA, and overwrite the rank based on step 2 (above).

For these students, the Class Rank GPA will then appear on official transcripts, along with the associated rank.

*Middle of Grade  
12*

Initial GPA will be computed in Skyward.

At this time, for students with an initial GPA  $\geq 4.0$ , campus staff will:

1. Utilize the Class Rank GPA report generated by Skyward.
2. Re-rank applicable students using the Class Rank GPA.
3. Manually overwrite (in Skyward) the initial GPA with the Class Rank GPA, and overwrite the rank based on step 2 (above).

For these students, the Class Rank GPA will then appear on official transcripts, along with the associated rank. This information will be used for reporting the top 10 percent of the class.

*After the fifth six-  
weeks period in  
Grade 12*

Initial GPA will be computed in Skyward.

At this time, for students with an initial GPA  $\geq 4.0$ , District staff will:

- Determine the class rank GPA, using methods other than Skyward, to account for tentative final semester grades, courses excluded from GPA calculations through student choice, and any courses not completed.
- Send GPA and rank information to campuses on the first Monday in May.

For applicable students with an initial GPA  $\geq 4.0$ , campus staff will:

- Manually overwrite (in Skyward) the initial GPA with the class rank GPA.

For these students, the final class rank GPA will then appear on official transcripts, along with the associated rank.

*End of Grade 12*

Initial GPA will be computed in Skyward.

At this time, for students whose final GPAs were calculated after the fifth six-weeks period, campus staff will:

- Utilize previous GPA and rank information generated by District staff in May.
- Manually overwrite (in Skyward) the initial GPA with the class rank GPA, and associated rank (again).

For these students, the class rank GPA will then appear on official final transcripts, along with the associated rank.

For all other students (those with an initial GPA  $< 4.0$  after the fifth six-weeks), the initial GPA and associated rank, as computed by Skyward, will appear on official final transcripts.