

9700 ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

9741 Class Rank/Honors Credits - Class of 2014 and Beyond

The Board acknowledges the usefulness of a system of computing grade point averages and class ranking for secondary school graduates to inform students, parents and others of their relative academic placement among their peers under relatively similar circumstances.

Students will be eligible for Valedictorian, Salutatorian, Historian, and Honor scholastic recognition if they have been enrolled as a full-time student in the District for their entire senior year. A full-time student is defined as a student who earns a minimum of six (6) credits during his/her senior year. Students who were full-time students in the District their junior year and fulfilled their graduation requirements by earning fewer than six (6) credits their senior year will be eligible for scholastic recognition at the end of their senior year.

The grades from all subjects are to be used in the determination of class standing. The following procedure is employed:

1. Grades from all four marking periods and the final examination grade are averaged to determine the final grade. The weight of the final examination will be no more than 20% of the final grade. All classes in grades 9-12 shall have a final exam. A tentative ranking and a final grade average is determined for the combination of the freshman, sophomore, and junior years. These are recorded on the permanent records. As requests for transcripts come in, this tentative ranking and grade averages are listed on the transcripts.
2. When students attain senior year status, a final ranking is established by determining the final average at the close of the fourth marking period. The final average will determine the Valedictorian, Salutatorian, and Historian, and *summa cum laude*, *magna cum laude*, and *cum laude* recognition. The following categories will be established for honor students.

summa cum laude

Final Average \geq 98%

magna cum laude

Final Average with the
following range: \geq 93%

and $<$ 98%

cum laude

Final Average within the following range:
 \geq 86% and $<$ 93%

Students enrolled in honors, AP, or Dual Enrollment classes will have a value added to their final class grade (percentage) for that subject. AP students may opt to take the AP Exam. The following schedule will be used in completing the calculations for value added to the final class grade for that subject (percentage):

Percentage Range	Rating	Additional Value for 1 credit Honors or 1 credit or more Dual Enrollment	Additional Value for 1 credit AP
93-100	Superior	5	10
84-92	Above Average	5	10
70-83	Average	5	10
60-69	Below Average	0	0
40-59	Failing	0	0

*** If a credit qualifies for Honors or Dual Enrollment as well as AP, the student shall receive only an additional value of 10 (not 15).**

- The final rankings are determined after the final grades have been recorded. The final ranking is determined by weighted GPA which is derived from credits attempted times grades earned divided by credits attempted with weight attributed to the individual course where earned.

All curricular areas, whether they are special education, vocational, academic, or cyber are used to determine the grade average, which are then in turn used to determine the final class ranking at the end of the senior year. Grades received in any Pass/Fail course, or in the required courses of Physical Education 9, 10, 11, and 12 shall not be counted towards a student's GPA.

Students who attend any District secondary school for the purpose of enrolling in advanced placement and/or honors-classes will be awarded the weighted credit for the AP and/or honor course(s) in their home school.

Students who attend other educational institutions or complete correspondence courses outside the District during their tenure in the District may not use their grades from those institutions to determine their class rank. Only grades earned in the District will be used. The only exception to this is for students that are either (i) enrolled in an approved dual enrollment program ~~for which the District receives grant funds~~ and the students receive dual credit pursuant to Sections 1601-B through 1615-B of the School Code, or (ii) awarded dual credit by an accredited post-secondary institution that is approved to operate in Pennsylvania and with which the District has an agreement that provides for the awarding of dual credit in accordance with Section 1525 of the School Code. These students will have their college credit and grades recorded on their high school transcript: the credits and grades will be used to determine their GPA, and the course will be awarded .33 credit per college credit-hour, with a 3 credit-hour college course being awarded a full credit upon successful completion.

The Superintendent or his/her designee is charged with developing procedures for implementation of this policy.

Adoption Date	-	May 14, 2012
Revision	-	To be Determined
Legal Reference	-	Chapter 4 – Academic Standards & Assessment 24 P.S. 16-1601-B – 24P.S.16-1615-B 24 P.S. 15-1525

JM/ln