



# **College Station ISD Policy EIC (Local) Academic Achievement & Class Rank Committee**

Board Update  
May 17, 2022

# Overview

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- Committee Process
- Summary of Committee Consensus and Draft Policy Language
- TASB Policy Consultant Recommended Updates to Current Policy
- Implementation Timeline





# Committee Process

## Committee Purpose:

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- to examine CSISD board policy EIC(Local) and determine whether any changes need to be recommended for consideration by the CSISD Board of Trustees
  - Any changes would be implemented for an incoming freshman class
  - No current high school students would be impacted

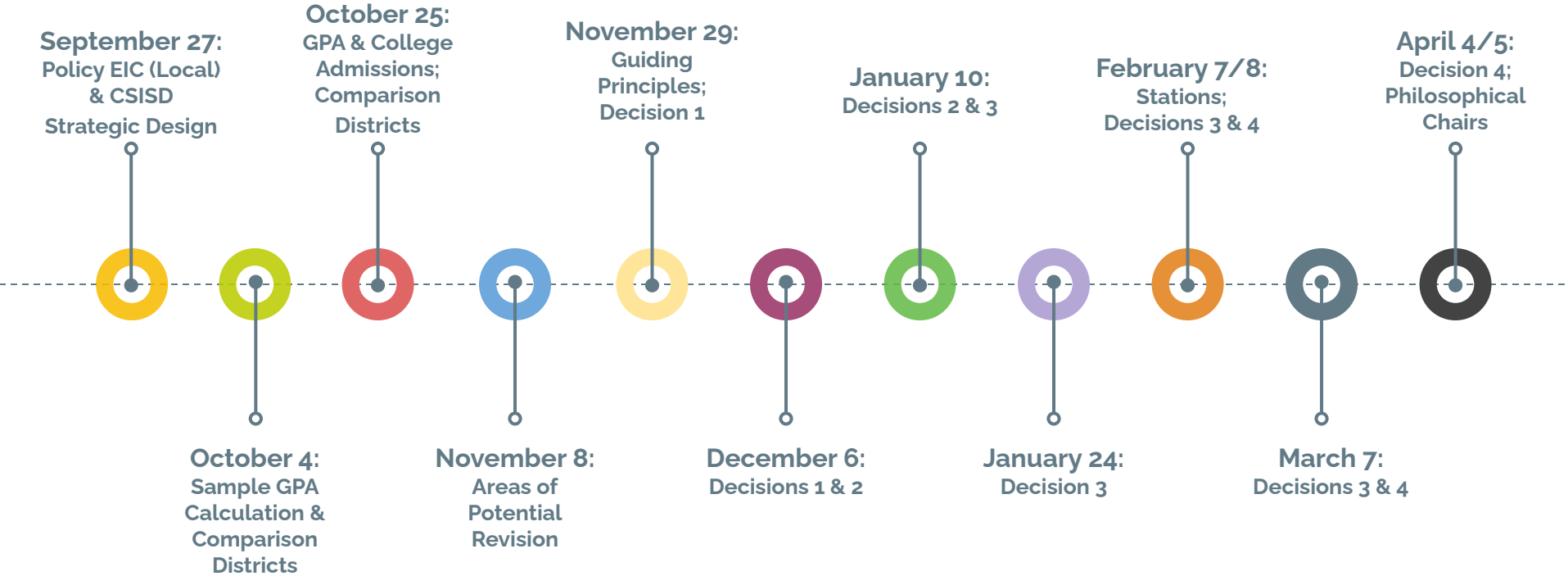


# The committee:

- Reviewed Policy EIC (Local)
- Reviewed our current Tier 1 (5.0 weighted) course offerings across all content areas
- Examined Policy EIC (Local) in comparable districts
- Reached consensus on recommendations for the board to consider regarding Policy EIC (Local)



# Committee Timeline



# Purpose of Grade Point Averages

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## Measures Academic Achievement:

- Illustrates level of rigor or difficulty of courses (weighted vs. unweighted)
- Contextualizes individual student performance by comparing the student to others in graduating class (class rank)



# Uses of Grade Point Averages

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- **College Admissions:**
  - For example: top 10% automatic admissions to most Texas public universities
- **Scholarships**
- **To determine academic honors for graduation**







# **Summary of Committee Consensus & Draft Policy Language**

# Consistent Application For Graduating Class

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- No change to this section
- Implement changes with the Class of 2027 (current 7th graders)

## **Consistent Application for Graduating Class**

The District shall apply the same class rank calculation method and rules for local graduation honors for all students in a graduating class, regardless of the school year in which a student first earned high school credit.



# Consensus on Calculation

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- ⦿ **Weighted GPA: used for class rank as defined in local policy**
- ⦿ **Includes up to 8 semesters each of English, math, social studies, science and up to 2 semesters of LoTE**
- ⦿ **For class rank GPA, calculation would include eligible courses regardless of when taken**
  - **Includes high school core and languages other than English taken in middle school**

# Consensus on Calculation

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- **Grades in the following categories would be included for eligible high school courses as Tier 3 courses:**
  - **summer school grades**
  - **courses for which credit is earned through examination, with or without prior instruction**
  - **correspondence courses**
  - **distance learning/online courses, including grades earned in a TxVSN course or is a distance learning/online course offered by the District**

# Draft Language on Calculation

## Calculation

The District shall include in the calculation of class rank semester grades earned in high school credit courses taken at any grade level unless excluded below. Semester grades used in the calculation of class rank shall include the following:

1. Up to eight semesters each of English, mathematics, science, and social studies;
2. Up to two semesters of languages other than English;
3. Eligible substitutions for any of the courses noted in items 1 and 2; and
4. All other eligible courses.

If a student completes more than the number of semesters listed above in items 1 and 2, the class rank calculation shall use the eligible semester grades within each category with the highest converted grade point value.

The calculation shall include failing grades.

## Exclusions

The calculation of class rank shall exclude grades earned in a non-accredited school, including homeschool; any course taken outside of the United States, unless accredited by an agency recognized by TEA; or any course for which a pass/fail grade is assigned.

# Consensus on Weighted Grading System

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- **Three Tiered System**
  - **Tier One: Advanced Placement**
  - **Tier Two: Advanced & Academic Dual Credit**
  - **Tier Three: All Other Courses**



# Draft Language on Calculation

## **Weighted Grade System**

### Categories

*Tier 1*

The District shall categorize and weight eligible courses as Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3 in accordance with provisions of this policy and as designated in appropriate District publications.

*Tier 2*

Eligible Advanced Placement (AP) shall be categorized and weighted as Tier 1 courses.

*Tier 3*

Eligible dual credit courses and courses locally designated as advanced shall be categorized and weighted as Tier 2 courses.

All other eligible courses shall be categorized and weighted as Tier 3 courses.

# Draft Language on Calculation

## Weighted Grade Point Average

The District shall convert semester grades earned in eligible courses to grade points in accordance with the following chart and shall calculate a weighted grade point average (GPA):

Grade	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
100	6.0	5.5	5.0
99	5.9	5.4	4.9
98	5.8	5.3	4.8
97	5.7	5.2	4.7
96	5.6	5.1	4.6
95	5.5	5.0	4.5
94	5.4	4.9	4.4
93	5.3	4.8	4.3
92	5.2	4.7	4.2
91	5.1	4.6	4.1
90	5.0	4.5	4.0
89	4.9	4.4	3.9
88	4.8	4.3	3.8
87	4.7	4.2	3.7
86	4.6	4.1	3.6
85	4.5	4.0	3.5
84	4.4	3.9	3.4
83	4.3	3.8	3.3
82	4.2	3.7	3.2
81	4.1	3.6	3.1
80	4.0	3.5	3.0
79	3.9	3.4	2.9
78	3.8	3.3	2.8
77	3.7	3.2	2.7
76	3.6	3.1	2.6
75	3.5	3.0	2.5
74	3.4	2.9	2.4
73	3.3	2.8	2.3
72	3.2	2.7	2.2
71	3.1	2.6	2.1

## Transferred Grades

Grade	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
70	3.0	2.5	2.0
Below 70	0	0	0

When a student transfers semester grades for courses that would be eligible under the Tier 3 category and the District has accepted the credit, the District shall include the grades in the calculation of class rank.

When a student transfers semester grades for courses that would be eligible to receive additional weight under the District's weighted grade system, the District shall assign additional weight to the grades based on the categories and grade weight system used by the District only if a similar or an equivalent course is offered to the same class of students in the District.



# Consensus on Local Graduation Honors

- Utilize GPA Cut Points to determine academic honors for graduation

Grade	Tier 1	
100	6.0	<i>Summa Cum Laude</i> <i>5.0 and above</i>
99	5.9	
98	5.8	
97	5.7	
96	5.6	
95	5.5	
94	5.4	
93	5.3	
92	5.2	
91	5.1	
90	5.0	<i>Magna Cum Laude</i> <i>4.8 to 4.99</i>
89	4.9	
88	4.8	<i>Cum Laude</i> <i>4.5 to 4.79</i>
87	4.7	
86	4.6	
85	4.5	



# Draft Language on Local Graduation Honors

## Local Graduation Honors

For the purpose of determining honors to be conferred during graduation activities, the District shall calculate class rank in accordance with this policy and administrative regulations by using grades available at the time of calculation at the end of the fifth six-week grading period of the senior year.

For the purpose of applications to institutions of higher education, the District shall also calculate class rank as required by state law. The District's eligibility criteria for local graduation honors shall apply only for local recognitions and shall not restrict class rank for the purpose of automatic admission under state law. [See EIC(LEGAL)]

## Honor Graduates

*Summa Cum Laude, Magna Cum Laude, Cum Laude*

The District shall not award any student with the title of valedictorian or salutatorian. The group of highest-ranking students (summa cum laude) shall determine who, or if, a student speaks at graduation. Students who have completed the foundation program with at least one endorsement shall be recognized with honor graduate status in accordance with the following:

- Summa Cum Laude at least a 5.0
- Magna Cum Laude 4.80 to 4.99
- Cum Laude 4.50 o 4.79

# Additional Recommended Language for Local Graduation Honors

- Highest Ranking Graduate
- Breaking a Tie for Highest Ranking Graduate

## Highest-Ranking Graduate

The student meeting the local eligibility criteria for recognition as the highest-ranking summa cum laude honor graduate after the final marking period and who has been continuously enrolled in the same District high school for the two semesters immediately preceding graduation shall also be considered the highest-ranking graduate for purposes of receiving the honor graduate certificate from the state of Texas.

## Breaking Ties

In case of a tie in weighted GPAs, after calculation to the fourth decimal place, the District shall apply the following methods, in this order, to determine recognition as the highest-ranking graduate:

1. Count the number of Tier I courses taken by each student involved in the tie.
2. Calculate an unweighted cumulative GPA in accordance with administrative regulations.





# **TASB Policy Consultant Recommended Updates to Current Policy**

# Draft Language Recommendation for Current Policy

## Honor Graduates

*Summa Cum Laude, Magna Cum Laude, Cum Laude*

The District shall not award any student with the title of valedictorian or salutatorian. The group of highest-ranking students (summa cum laude) shall determine who, or if, a student speaks at graduation. Students who have completed the foundation program with at least one endorsement shall be recognized with honor graduate status in accordance with the following:

- Summa Cum Laude at least a 4.0
- Magna Cum Laude 3.80 to 3.99
- Cum Laude 3.50 to 3.79

## Highest-Ranking Graduate

The student meeting the local eligibility criteria for recognition as the highest-ranking summa cum laude honor graduate after the final marking period and who has been continuously enrolled in the same high school (A&M Consolidated High School or College Station High School) for the two semesters immediately preceding graduation shall also be considered the highest-ranking graduate for purposes of receiving the honor graduate certificate from the state of Texas.

## Breaking Ties

In case of a tie in weighted GPAs, after calculation to the fourth decimal place, the District shall apply the following methods, in this order, to determine recognition as the highest-ranking graduate:

1. Count the number of Tier I courses taken by each student involved in the tie.
2. Calculate an unweighted cumulative GPA in accordance with administrative regulations.





# **Additional Clarification**

# Middle School Courses

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- **Current practice is that high school courses are reflected on the student's high school transcript, but only Advanced courses are included in the high school GPA.**
- **For high school credit courses taken in middle school, we will continue this practice with the exception of Spanish I since it is in the list of eligible courses to include in the GPA.**

# Middle School Courses

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- Middle School Course for High School Credit Eligible for GPA:
  - Algebra I Advanced
  - Geometry Advanced
  - Spanish II Advanced
  - Spanish III Advanced
  - *Spanish I (added due to eligibility per revised policy)*



# Middle School Courses

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- **Middle School Course for High School Credit will continue to not be eligible for GPA:**
  - **Touch System Data Entry** *(local required course)*
  - **Cyber Citizenship** *(local required course)*
  - **Professional Communications**
  - **Principles of Law**
  - **Principles of Applied Engineering**
- **Continue to be included on the transcript with numerical grade to show credit earned.**

# Role of “Unweighted” GPA

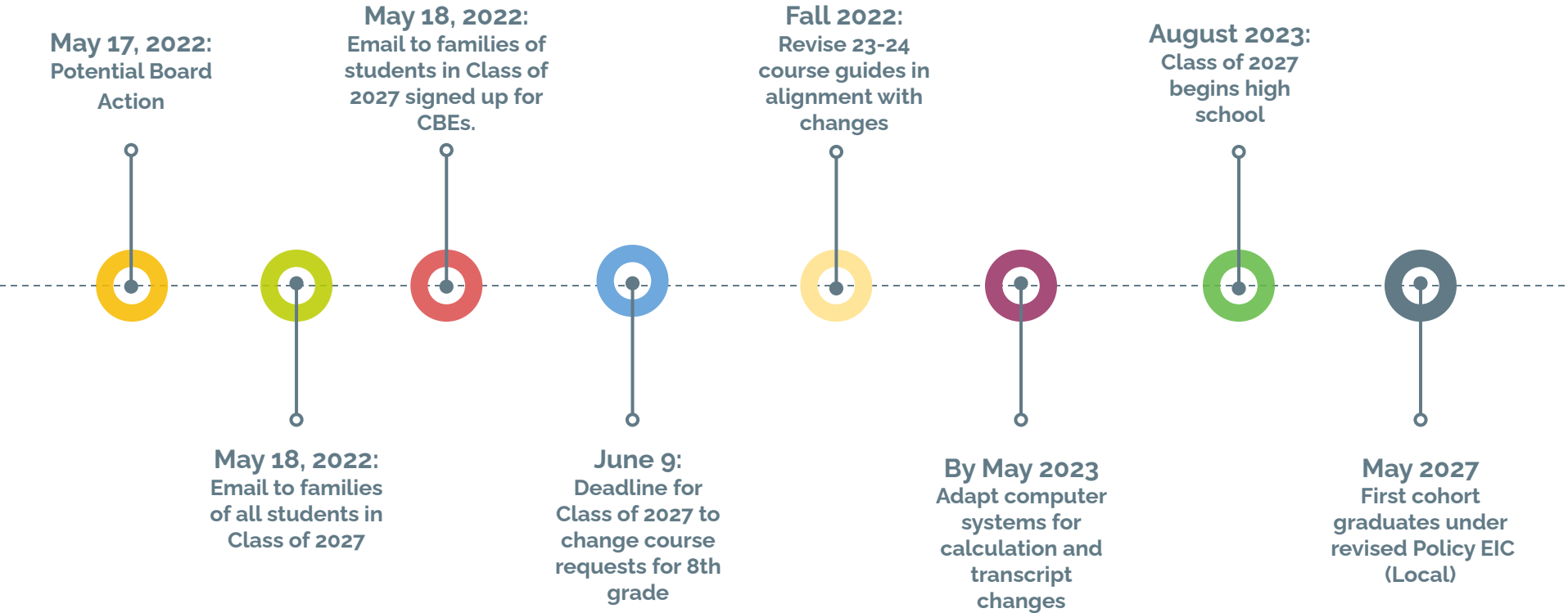
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- **Committee Recommendation: Include both unweighted & weighted GPAs on student transcripts**
  - **Unweighted GPA: holistic view of student performance**  
*This does not need to be included in the policy since it will not be used for rank GPA.*
  - **Weighted GPA: used for class rank as defined in local policy EIC(Local).**
- **CSISD will continue the practice of having unweighted cumulative GPAs provided by request.**



# Implementation Timeline

# Implementation Timeline





# Questions & Comments



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