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To: Dr. Marla M. Guerra, Superintendent
South Texas ISD Board of Directors

From: Jeff Hembree, Deputy Superintendent

Date: June 17, 2015

RE: South Texas ISD Policy EIC (Local) Class Ranking – Revision First Reading

Please find the attached South Texas ISD Policy EIC (Local) Class Ranking revised. This is the first reading on this revision in policy. It includes the changes approved by the South Texas ISD Board of Directors at the May 26, 2015 meeting.

We will have at least two readings of this policy before approval to allow time for thorough review and discussion.

Thank you.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
CLASS RANKING

EIC
(LOCAL)

REPORTING CLASS
RANK

The District shall not report class rank starting with the 2015-2016 school year, except as required by state law. Student weighted grade point average (GPA) only will be posted on an official student transcript.

Student or parents/guardians may request a student's class rank and receive it from their campus on a District form.

GRADE POINT LEVELS

A course weighting system has been established in the District to encourage and recognize academic achievement. The District shall categorize and weight courses as:

- College Preparation Courses (CP) 1.0 weight;
- Advanced/Pre-Advanced Placement Courses (PAP) 1.05 weight;
- Advanced Placement/Dual Credit/Independent Study Courses (AP) 1.10 weight;
- International Baccalaureate (IB) Courses 1.15 weight.

The District shall list in the campus course sequence and in the master course list all courses and their corresponding weight. These will be available to students, parents, and community members at each campus and on the District and campus websites.

CALCULATION

Student grades shall be recorded in the campus office as numerical grades, 0 through 100. The District shall convert semester grades to weighted grade points and shall calculate a weighted grade point average (GPA), to the ten-thousandths (0.0009) place, for each student.

The District shall include in the weighted grade point average calculation all semester grades earned in all high school credit courses taken in grades 9-12, except as excluded in this policy.

The third nine-weeks of the senior graduation year shall be treated as semester grades in the weighted GPA calculation.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
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EXCLUSIONS

Grade points for the following courses shall not be used in computing weighted grade point averages and scholastic honors:

- Summer school courses not taken in the District;
- Correspondence courses;
- Courses approved for local credit;
- Credit by examination;
- Distance learning/online courses, unless the grade is earned in a distance learning/online course offered by the District;
- Courses completed at junior high/middle school;
- Courses taken in any non-accredited school (including home-school);
- Grade points earned during the fourth nine-weeks grading period of the senior year.

Courses that receive more than one credit during a school year shall be counted only once in calculating weighted grade point average.

DUAL/AP COURSES

A grade in a dual credit class must be 80 or higher in order to receive 1.10 GPA weighting. Dual credit class grades lower than 80 shall receive 1.05 GPA weighting.

A student must take the AP examination in the subject area directly related to the class to receive 1.10 GPA weighting for an AP class grade. During a year in which a student is enrolled in an AP course, the student must be registered to take the AP examination in the subject area directly related to the class to receive 1.10 GPA weighting for an AP class grade. Failure to register and take the AP examination in an AP class subject will reduce the class GPA weighting to a 1.05 for each of the two semesters of the class.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT
CLASS RANKING

EIC
(LOCAL)

SCHOLASTIC HONORS The District shall recognize at graduation those students with a weighted GPA at or above specific benchmarks and who meet or exceed the eligibility qualifications in this policy.

SCHOLASTIC HONORS ELIGIBILITY Students are eligible for the District recognition of scholastic honors by:

- Successfully completing all local and state graduation requirements; and
- Completing at least one SAT or ACT college entrance exam and having the score reported back to their high school campus; and
- Successfully completing at least one dual credit, advanced placement, or International Baccalaureate course, and
- Obtaining the following weighted GPA for each scholastic honor:

Valedictorian	Highest weighted GPA
Salutatorian	Second highest weighted GPA
Summa Cum Laude	Weighted GPA at or above 95
Magna Cum Laude	Weighted GPA at or above 90
Cum Laude	Weighted GPA at or above 85

The District’s eligibility criteria for scholastic honors shall apply only for local recognitions and shall not restrict class ranking for purpose of automatic admission under state law. [See EIC (Legal)]