

Caswell County Schools and Bartlett Yancey Senior High School

Latin Honors System Implementation

Date: January 22, 2018

Transition to Latin Honors Diplomas for Graduating Class of 2019

In 2015, the State Board of Education mandated a statewide 10-point grading system for students enrolled in all high school courses. Students earning a grade of 90 to 100 now receive a 4.0 GPA; previously, students only earned a 4.0 GPA if their grade was a 96 to 100. Honors courses will now be assigned a weight of 0.5 quality point instead of 1.0 quality point. Advanced placement courses are now assigned a 1.0 quality point instead of 2.0 quality points. Career and College Promise (dual enrollment classes taken through Piedmont Community College and other community colleges while attending high school) will receive a 0.5 quality point.



For the current eleventh grade class graduating in 2019, the academic weights assigned to honors, advanced placement, and dual enrollment courses were decreased during each of their four years in high school. This resulted in the increased likelihood of numerous valedictorians and salutatorians.

The New System

The Latin Honors system will maintain academic competition and recognize students deserving academic honors for achieving academic excellence. Beginning with the graduating class of 2019, the top academic students will be recognized as Latin Honor Graduates according to the criteria below:

- GPA of 4.0-4.24: cum laude (with praise)
- GPA of 4.25-4.39: magna cum laude (with great praise)
- GPA of 4.4 or greater: summa cum laude (with highest praise)

Class rank and GPAs will remain on each student's transcript. Graduates with these recognitions will wear a Latin Honors cord at graduation.

The New Grading Scale (Effective 2015-2016 and Beyond):

A = 90 to 100 = 4.0 points

B = 80 to 89 = 3.0 points

C = 70 to 79 = 2.0 points

D = 60 to 69 = 1.0 points

F = 0 - 59 = 0 points

Why is GPA Important?

Your Grade Point Average (GPA) is a number that summarizes your overall performance in your high school courses. For each final course grade you earn (end of semester grade), you earn a certain number of quality points. Your GPA is the average of those quality points. Programs, opportunities, colleges and employers may use your GPA to infer things about your abilities and work habits, so attaining a GPA that accurately reflects you is important. Knowing how to calculate your high school GPA is important. Use the tools below to help you learn how to calculate your GPA and then set appropriate goals for continually improving your GPA.

Facts About GPA (Grade Point Average):

- It is cumulative and reflects all of the classes you take in high school!
- Honors & AP level classes helped you to earn extra quality points, which can enhance your GPA.
- GPA can play an important role in opportunities offered to you in and after high school.
- Typically, the higher your GPA, the more choices you will have for college, scholarships, etc.
- The GPA you have in 9th & 10th grades are critical as they set the foundation for what follows.
- It can be quite difficult to bring up your GPA in 11th & 12th grades if you did not start out strong in 9th & 10th grades.

How Are GPAs Calculated?

Total Quality Points ÷ Number of Courses = GPA

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