

VALEDICTORIAN, SALUTATORIAN, HONOR GRADUATES

5.23

The grades earned in all core courses from the ninth (9th) grade through 1st semester of the (12th) twelfth grade are used for determining valedictorian, salutatorian, and honor students. GPA calculations of senior candidates for valedictorian, salutatorian, and honor graduates shall be calculated to the second decimals place. (See Policy 5.22 Class Rankings and Weighted Credit.) The following criteria shall be used in determining valedictorian, salutatorian, and honor graduates at each Henry County high school (Students entering the 9th grade during the 2018-2019 school year and after):

1. Valedictorian, salutatorian, and honor graduates shall be selected from students pursuing the highest available diploma endorsement (See Courses Attached on Page 3).
2. Students will be ranked by the Core GPA. The student with the highest Core GPA will be the valedictorian. The student with the second highest Core GPA will be the salutatorian. In case of a tie in the Core GPA, numerical grade average will be used.
3. The student with the highest numerical grade average will be valedictorian. The student with the second highest numerical grade average will be salutatorian. In case of a tie, there will be a co-valedictorians or co-salutatorians. Numerical grade averages which have a differential of .25 or less will be considered a tie.
4. Honor graduates are those students who maintain an overall Core GPA is 4.0 or above in grades 9-12 in all core courses and who are graduating with an Advanced Diploma.
5. Core course credits/grades in the following subjects shall be used when calculating GPA and numerical grade averages for the selection of valedictorian and salutatorian:
 - 4 English credits
 - 4 Social Studies credits
 - 3 math credits including Algebra II with Trigonometry
 - 3 science credits

Core course credits/grades in the following subjects shall be used when calculating grade point averages (GPA) for the selection of honor graduates:

- 4 English credits
- 4 Social Studies credits
- 3 math credits including Algebra II with Trigonometry
- 3 science credits

CHAPTER 5.00 - STUDENTS

- 6. A transfer student must have transferred in by his/her junior year to be considered for valedictorian or salutatorian unless the transfer was a result of a move into the school’s attendance zone by the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the student. When the student transfers due to a bona fide move of the parent/guardian, the transfer student could share the honor with the non-transfer valedictorian or salutatorian. Honor graduates may be students who transfer in at any time.
- 7. Grade point averages shall be computed at the end of the 1st semester of the senior year. Calculations shall be done immediately after grades are posted to the grade sheets. Grade point average (GPA) and numerical averages shall be expressed in numbers calculated to the second decimal place.

Honor Graduates

In order for any Henry County student to be considered an honor graduate, the student must complete the requirements below and maintain a combined 4.0 GPA in core courses. Beginning with 9th graders entering high school during 2018-2019 school and after.

English 4 Credits (or any AP/postsecondary equivalent of these courses)

- Honors English 9
- Honors English 10
- Honors/Advanced/AP English11
- Honors/Advanced/AP English 12

Mathematics 4 Credits (or any AP/postsecondary equivalent of these courses)

- Algebra I
- Geometry
- Algebra II with Trigonometry
- Precalculus

Social Studies 4 Credits (or any AP/postsecondary equivalent of these courses)

- World History
- U.S. History to 1877
- U.S. History from 1877
- ½ U.S. Government
- ½ Economics

Science 4 Credits (or any AP/postsecondary equivalent of these courses)

- OnePhysicalScience
- HonorsBiology
- HonorsChemistry
- 1 Honors/AP Courses (2 if Chemistry took the place of Physical Science)

Physical Education 1 Credit LIFE (Personal Fitness) Health Education ½ Credit

CTE and/or Foreign Language and/or Arts Education 3 Credits

2 credits must come from a Foreign Language course in sequence

Career Preparedness 1 Credit Electives 4 ½ Credits

Total Credits 26 Credits

REFERENCES:

CODE OF ALABAMA

16-8-8

HISTORY:

ADOPTED: OCTOBER 11, 2007

REVISED: JULY 18, 2013; JULY 12, 2018

FORMERLY: IHCA, JFF