

ADVANCED PLACEMENT CLASSES AND SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Students and their parents shall be notified of the availability of dual enrollment, advanced placement classes, the International Baccalaureate program, and Academic Year Governor's School Programs, the qualifications for enrolling in such classes and programs, and the availability of financial assistance to low-income and needy students to take the advanced placement and International Baccalaureate examinations. Students and their parents shall also be notified of the program with a community college to enable students to complete an associate's degree or a one-year Uniform Certificate of General Studies concurrent with a high school diploma. The superintendent shall promulgate regulations to implement this policy, which shall ensure the provision of timely and adequate notice to students and their parents.

Adopted: August 13, 2012

Legal Ref.: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, § 22.1-253.13:1.D.

Cross Ref.: LEB Advanced/Alternative Courses for Credit

INSTRUCTION

Student Evaluation and Grading/Class Rank

A. Grading

The relationship between the alpha grade and its numeric equivalent for grades 1-12 in the Tazewell County schools is as follows:

- A = 93-100
- B = 85-92
- C = 77-84
- D = 70-76
- F = Below 70

Written progress reports and parental conferences shall be substituted for formal grades at the kindergarten level.

B. GPA/Rank in Class Guidelines

1. Board of Education regulations require that courses taken below the ninth grade level that are identified as ninth grade or above, plus all other courses classified as ninth through twelfth grade, be included in determination of the required grade point average for the Board of Education seal and/or the Governor's seal. Courses taken during the second semester of the senior year shall be included.
2. All enrolled students will be tentatively ranked at the end of the first semester of the senior year. Final rank in class will be determined at the end of the second semester of the senior year.
3. All state approved Advanced Placement (AP) courses shall be weighted for computing a student's grade point average. A numerical .036 add-on will be used to compute a student's grade point average.
4. Only students completing all requirements at the end of the second semester for graduation will be eligible for the academic honors of Valedictorian or Salutatorian. To be eligible as valedictorian or salutatorian a student must have completed the last four (4) consecutive semesters in Tazewell- County Public Schools.
5. Students who complete graduation requirements in summer school will retain their previously determined class rank.

(continued)

INSTRUCTION

Student Evaluation and Grading/Class Rank (continued)

B. GPA/Rank in Class Guidelines

6. Rank in class shall be determined by assigning a constant numerical value to the letter grade on which a unit or fractional unit of credit was based in each course.

All Courses Except
Advanced Placement

Advanced Placement
Courses

Weighted Course Add-On

A=4
B=3
C=2
D=1
F=0

A=.036
B=.036
C=.036

Example:

Jane Doe: 31.5 total credits, including
26.5 regular classes with "A's" in each one
5 AP classes with 3 "A's" and 2 "B's"

$$29.5 \times 4 = 118$$

$$2 \times 3 = \frac{6}{124}$$

$$124/31.5 = 3.937 \text{ Base GPA}$$

Five AP courses produce $.036 \times 5 = 0.180$ add on for weighted course work.
3.937 Base GPA plus 0.180 weighted course add-on = 4.117 Official GPA

7. Only final grades for each course attempted shall be used in the computation of the final grade point average.
8. Courses repeated will be recorded on the transcript in compliance with the *Regulations Governing Secondary Transcripts, Standards for Accrediting Virginia Public Schools, and Guidelines for the Management of the Student's Scholastic Record in Virginia Public Schools.*

INSTRUCTION

Student Evaluation and Grading/Class Rank (continued)

B. GPA/Rank in Class Guidelines (continued)

- 9. If a combination of circumstances should produce a ranking which the school principal deems to be unfair, he/she may act to correct the injustice, with School Board approval. Such action would rarely be necessary.
- 10. In computation of rank in class, all final ranks shall be calculated at four decimal places and rounded to the nearest three decimal places. (See example below.) Rank, except for ties, will reflect the number of students at and above any given rank.

<u>Student</u>	<u>GPA</u>	<u>GPA</u>	<u>Rank in Class</u>
A	3.8624	3.862	1
B	3.8452	3.845	2
C	3.8454	3.845	2
D	3.8067	3.807	4
E	3.8068	3.807	4
F	3.7732	3.773	6

11. Students with a GPA of 3.5 and above will be awarded academic letters and bars. The GPA will be computed annually for the purpose of awarding academic letters and bars.

12. "Valedictorian" and "salutatorian" designations for honoring graduates will continue to be used and will be supplemented by a system which recognizes students who achieve grade point averages within the following ranges:

Summa Cum Laude	GPA Greater than 4.000
Magna Cum Laude	GPA of 3.750 up to and including 4.000
Cum Laude	GPA of 3.500 up to and including 3.749

13. The final designation of honor graduates shall be presented to the Division Superintendent for review.

Approved by School Board: January 12, 1987
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