

## ADVANCED PLACEMENT CLASSES AND SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Students and their parents are notified of the availability of dual enrollment and advanced placement classes; career and technical education programs, including internships, externships, apprenticeships, credentialing programs, certification programs, licensure programs, and other work-based learning experiences; the International Baccalaureate program and Academic Year Governor's School Programs; the qualifications for enrolling in such classes, programs, and experiences; 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 are also 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 promulgates regulations to implement this policy, which ensure the provision of timely and adequate notice to students and their parents.

Adopted: September 10, 2018

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

Cross Ref.: IGAD Career and Technical Education  
LEB Advanced/Alternative Courses for Credit

## INSTRUCTION

Student Evaluation and Grading/Class RankA. 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 = 69 and below

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

B. GPA/Rank in Class Guidelines

1. Virginia 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. Grade equivalents for AP courses shall be as follows:

- A = 5.0
- B = 4.0
- C = 3.0
- D = 2.0
- F = 1.0

4. Grade equivalents for courses taken from the A. Linwood Holton Governor's School, Southwest Virginia Education Training Network, Virginia Virtual, Southwest Virginia Community College Dual Enrollment, and the Tazewell County Career and Technical Center will be calculated using a .5 add-on as follows:

- A = 4.5
- B = 3.5
- C = 2.5
- D = 1.5
- F = 0.5

5. 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.
6. Students who complete graduation requirements in summer school will retain their previously determined class rank.
7. Rank in class shall be determined by assigning a constant numerical value to the letter.

Standard Courses – No Add-on	.5 Add-on	Advanced Placement Courses
A = 4.0	A = 4.5	A = 5.0
B = 3.0	B = 3.5	B = 4.0
C = 2.0	C = 2.5	C = 3.0
D = 1.0	D = 1.5	D = 2.0
F = 0.0	F = 0.5	F = 1.0

Grade Average Calculation

Student	Standard Courses	Add-on Courses	AP Courses	Total
Bob	22 As	3 As	5 As	30 As
	22 X 4.0 = 88.0	3 X 4.5 = 13.5	5 X 5.0 = 25.0	126.5

Example Grade Point Calculation:

$$88.0 + 13.5 + 25.0 = 126.5$$

Number of classes taken equals 30

$$126.5 \div 30 = 4.21667$$

Rounded = 4.22

4.217 = Official GPA

8. Only final grades for each course attempted shall be used in the computation of the final grade point average.
9. 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.*
10. 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.

11. 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.

Student	GPA	GPA	Rank in Class
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

12. 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.
13. "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

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

Approved by School Board: January 12, 1987  
 Amended by School Board: September 10, 1990  
 Amended by School Board: September 13, 1993  
 Amended by School Board: January 13, 1997  
 Amended by School Board: December 14, 1998  
 Amended by School Board: August 14, 2000  
 Amended by School Board: August 13, 2001  
 Amended by School Board: December 3, 2001  
 Amended by School Board: September 13, 2004  
 Amended by School Board: May 8, 2006  
 Amended by School Board: May 8, 2017