## McMinn County Board of Education

| Monitoring: <br> Review: Annually, <br> in November | Descriptor Term: | Descriptor Code: <br> 4.602 | Issued Date: <br> $02 / 09 / 12$ |  |
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|  |  | Class Rank | Rescinds: | Issued: |

For the purposes of class rank beginning with the school year 2012-13, students will be ranked in the following order:

## Diploma of Distinction and Honors Diploma

Students with a "Diploma of Distinction" or an "Honors Diploma" as defined by the Tennessee Department of Education would be ranked first. Students with a Diploma of Distinction or an Honors Diploma will then be ranked by GPA. Students with a "regular diploma" will be ranked by GPA after all Diplomas of Distinction and Honors Diploma students are ranked.

The result of this ranking will be such that a student with a Diploma of Distinction or an Honors Diploma would be ranked in front of a student with a regular diploma even though a student with a regular diploma might have a higher GPA than a student with a Diploma of Distinction or an Honors Diploma.

It shall be the responsibility of the students and parents to understand the requirements of the Diploma of Distinction and the Honors Diploma. School personnel will be available to explain these diplomas.

## Class Rank

Class Rank shall be determined by accumulated grade-point averages from grades 9-12 through the conclusion of the senior year. All grades in all subjects will be included in the computations with the exception of any course taken in the middle grades for which those grades will be assigned a Pass/Fail. All courses are assigned the same quality point value except those courses designated as Advanced Placement and Dual Enrollment courses in the core areas. Advanced Placement and Dual Enrollment core courses will receive an additional Quality Pride point value (.025) for a passing grade per semester. The number of AP/DE courses that receive the additional Quality Pride point (.025) will be limited to the number of AP offerings plus four Dual Enrollment classes (12 semester hours) in the core areas that are in place when a student enters the ninth grade of high school. With the permission of the principal, students are encouraged to take additional AP/DE courses but the Quality Pride points will only be added to the original number of allocated courses. Equivalent classes offered in both Dual Enrollment and AP could only be given a Quality Pride point in one of the classes. An example of this is Dual Enrollment Senior English and AP Senior English. A student may only take one of these offerings. Students who take an "equivalent class" as described before may substitute an AP/DE core class and receive the Quality Pride point, if they have not surpassed the original number of allocated Pride point classes. McMinn County's official grade point average (GPA) is un-weighted for the purpose of the Hope Scholarship reporting.

The calculation of the GPA is determined by dividing the sum of the quality points by the total courses attempted. Grade point averages (GPA) are calculated on the following graduated 4-point scale. After the calculation of the GPA is done, any Quality Pride points that have been accumulated will be added onto
the final GPA. Each semester grade (one/half of course) stands on its own for calculation of the course's GPA. For example, a "B" in the first semester and an "A" in the second semester would receive a 3.5 GPA. However, a course receiving a full Carnegie unit offered in a block setting would be calculated using only one grade for the entire course. Credit given to all courses taken in high school is counted.

## Implementation

Beginning in school year 2012-13, this policy will be implemented in the following way. Seniors (class of 2013) may receive Quality Pride points in two (2) AP/DE core classes. Juniors (Class of 2014) may receive Quality Pride points in four (4) AP/DE core classes. Sophomores (Class of 2015) may receive Quality Pride points in six (6) AP/DE core classes. Freshmen (Class of 2016 and beyond) may receive additional Quality Pride points for the number of AP offerings plus four Dual Enrollment classes (12 semester hours) in the core areas that are in place at their school when a student enters the ninth grade of high school.

## Grade Point Average and Class Rank

The cumulative grade point average includes grades earned in all courses taken from ninth grade through twelfth grade. The grade point average is based on a fixed quality point system with additional Quality Pride points added to the final GPA for core courses designated as Advanced Placement or Dual Enrollment.

## QUALITY POINTS:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathrm{A}=4.0 \\
& \mathrm{~B}=3.0 \\
& \mathrm{C}=2.0 \\
& \mathrm{D}=1.0 \\
& \mathrm{~F}=0.0
\end{aligned}
$$

GRADING SCALE: $A=93-100 \quad B=85-92 \quad C=75-84 \quad D=70-74 \quad$ F = Below 70

## Cherokee/Charger Pride point:

Advanced Placement and Dual Enrollment core courses will receive an additional (.025) per semester. These points will be added on after the calculation of the final GPA is done.

## Transfer Students

A student who transfers into a McMinn County School must complete the final two semesters at that school in order to be considered for valedictorian/salutatorian honors. Quality Pride points will only be added to core area Advanced Placement and Dual Enrollment courses. The number of courses receiving Quality Pride points cannot exceed the number available to students in that graduating class at the receiving school.

