

Local District Policy Update 2019.03: Local Graduation Honors

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EIC (LOCAL): LOCAL GRADUATION HONORS

- High honors
 - Achievement: Top Ten graduates
 - Continuous enrollment in the same District high school for the two school years immediately preceding graduation
- Honors
 - Achievement: Top 10%, based on weighted GPA
 - Continuous enrollment in a District high school for the three quarter grading periods immediately preceding graduation

POLICY COMPARISON: CONTINUOUS ENROLLMENT

- Compared policies with 15 other districts
 - 14 set criteria for recognizing honors graduates at graduation
- **Continuous enrollment**
 - Valedictorian/Salutatorian:
 - All have a continuous enrollment requirement.
 - High Honors / Top Ten Percent
 - 12 have no continuous enrollment requirement
 - 2 districts have a continuous enrollment requirement for honor graduates
 - Coppel
 - Top 10% must be continuously enrolled for 4 semesters before graduation
 - Honor graduates (5.0 GPA) have no continuous enrollment requirement.
 - Richardson
 - Top Ten Graduates must be continuously enrolled for two years before graduation
 - Top 10% must be continuously enrolled in a district high school for the 3 quarter grading periods before graduation

POLICY COMPARISON: ACHIEVEMENT CRITERIA

- **GPA above set criteria**
 - Coppell, Highland Park, Mansfield, Plano, Richardson
- **Top Ten Ranked Students**
 - Highland Park, Keller, Leander, Richardson, Northwest
- **Top Ten Percent**
 - Coppell, Decatur, Leander, Northwest
- **Class Rank**
 - Frisco, Lewisville, McKinney
- **Top 10% + GPA above set criteria**
 - Allen, Eagle Mountain-Saginaw
- **Based on GPA**
 - Fort Worth

POLICY OPTIONS

- **Version A**
 - Current policy (no change)
- **Version B**
 - Continuous enrollment at a District high school for the three quarter grading periods before graduation for honors & high honors
 - Achievement criteria is unchanged for honors (Top 10%) & high honors (Top Ten)
- **Version C**
 - No continuous enrollment requirement
 - New achievement criteria
 - *Summa cum laude* (highest honors): GPA _____
 - *Magna cum laude* (high honors): GPA _____
 - *Cum laude* (honors): GPA _____
- **Version D**
 - Continuous enrollment
 - Top Ten: the same District high school for the two school years immediately preceding graduation
 - Top 10%: no continuous enrollment requirement
 - Achievement criteria is unchanged

VERSION C: 2019 GRADUATES

WEIGHTED GPA

Campus	Summa cum laude 100 5.0	Magna cum laude 97-99.99 4.7 – 4.99	Cum laude 95-96.99 4.5 – 4.69
Northwest	9%	16%	21%
Eaton	10%	17%	22%
Byron Nelson	19%	29%	35%

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

- Study/Feedback from community before making changes
- Leading Choices
 - Version C (*cum laude*)
 - Clear criteria
 - Not based on performance of others
 - Recognizes more students
 - Doesn't exclude students moving to district during last 2 years of high school
 - Version D (*continuous enrollment for Top Ten, not Top 10%*)
 - Level playing field for competing students
 - Limits rank-shopping

QUESTIONS?

