

Class ranking shall be determined by the Cumulative Numeric Grade Average (CNGA) of graduating seniors at the completion of the third nine weeks of the 12th grade year. (See Policy IHC for details)

The student with the highest class ranking shall be recognized as the Valedictorian. The student with the second highest class ranking shall be recognized as Salutatorian.

If a tie occurs in the identification of either the Valedictorian or the Salutatorian, then those students meeting the numeric average criteria shall have that honor. However, for scholarship awards, total SAT/ACT scores (highest verbal and highest math) shall also be utilized in preparing rank ordering of class standings.

Students, including “Move on When Ready” (MOWR) must be enrolled in Sumter County School System for a minimum of four (4) consecutive semesters immediately prior to graduation to be named Valedictorian or Salutatorian. Transfer credit used for calculation of cumulative numeric grade averages for determination of class ranking for Valedictorian and/or Salutatorian shall be accepted only from high schools or colleges accredited by regional accrediting agencies recognized by the Georgia State Department of Education.

In the event of a tie in class ranking for Valedictorian, each student will be publicly acknowledged. A Salutatorian will not be publicly recognized in the event of a tie for Valedictorian. After determining there is not a tie in class ranking for Valedictorian, if a tie in class ranking for Salutatorian exists, each student will be publicly acknowledged.

CRITERIA FOR BREAKING TIES FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

If scholarships or financial grants are to be awarded based on class ranking as Valedictorian and/or Salutatorian, those individuals will be identified and that determination will be double checked by another individual. If there is a tie and the scholarships or grants cannot be shared among the students tied for Valedictorian and/or Salutatorian, the following criteria will be used in turn to break ties in class rankings:

Valedictorian:

1. Cumulative numeric grade averages; if a tie shall exist,
2. Number of college preparatory classes taken; if a tie still exists,
3. Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) Scores or American College Test (ACT) Scores.

After using tie-breaking criteria, the student with the highest class ranking would receive any scholarship awards for Valedictorian.

After using tie-breaking criteria, the student with the second highest class ranking would receive any scholarship awards for Salutatorian.

Salutatorian

1. Cumulative numeric grade averages; if a tie shall exist,
2. Number of college preparatory classes taken; if a tie still exists,
3. Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) Scores or American College Test (ACT) Scores.

After using tie-breaking criteria, the student with the highest class ranking would receive any scholarship awards for Salutatorian.

If ties cannot be broken by the means listed, the principal of the school will select a committee to determine the recipients of any scholarships or grants.