

CLASS RANKING AND HONOR GRADUATES

In the event of high school consolidation within the parish, the credits and grades earned at the discontinued school(s) will be considered to have been earned at the receiving school for the purpose of determining academic honors.

COMPUTATION OF GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA) FOR GRADUATION

The final grades shall be used to determine class rankings.

HONORS COURSES/DUAL ENROLLMENT

The TOPS University Diploma Track and Jump Start TOPS TECH Career Diploma shall be based on the four (4.00) point scale. High schools shall offer honors class(es) deemed appropriate on campus beginning with the 2016-2017 school year from the recommendations for TOPS Honors Courses from the Louisiana Department of Education. The TOPS Honors Courses and Dual Enrollment shall be based on a ten point grading scale as well as a four (4.00) GPA scale. Beginning with the incoming 2023-2024 Freshman cohort (2026-2027 Seniors): The calculation of the grade point average (GPA) will use a five - (5.0) point scale for grades earned in the BESE/Board of Regents approved courses for Advanced Placement (AP), Honors and Dual Enrollment.

SELECTION OF THE VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN

A student shall be required to earn at least one-half of the credits required for graduation at the high school from which he/she is graduating in order to be a valedictorian or salutatorian of that school. Beginning with students that entered high school for the first time in 2014-2015 and beyond, Cumulative GPA shall be derived from all units of credits pursued by students following the TOPS University and Jumpstart Diploma Track. Beginning with the freshman class of 2023-2024 cohort (Senior Class of 2026-2027) and beyond, we will go from honoring valedictorian and salutatorian to honoring honor graduates.

SELECTION OF HONOR GRADUATES

Any candidate for graduation obtaining a 3.5 grade-point average (GPA) or above on a 4.0 scale shall be considered an honor graduate regardless of curriculum. If a subject is used as a unit of credit, it shall be counted in the grade point average (GPA). Beginning with the incoming 2023-2024 Freshman cohort (2026-2027 Seniors): The calculation of the grade point average (GPA) will use a five - (5.0) point scale for grades earned in the BESE/Board of Regents approved courses for Advanced Placement (AP), Honors and Dual Enrollment.

SELECTION OF TOPS UNIVERSITY DIPLOMA (HONOR GRADUATES)

Beginning with students that entered high school for the first time in 2014-2015 and beyond, any candidate for graduation obtaining a 3.500 grade point average (GPA) or above on a 4.0 scale on the TOPS University Diploma Track shall be considered an honor graduate. These students shall be recognized and wear color coded honor cords at graduation. Cumulative GPA shall be derived from all units of credits pursued and completed on their transcript. Beginning with the incoming 2023-2024 Freshman cohort (2026-2027 Seniors): The calculation of the grade point average (GPA) will use a five - (5.0) point scale for grades earned in the BESE/Board of Regents approved courses for Advanced Placement (AP), Honors and Dual Enrollment.

SELECTION OF CAREER DIPLOMA EXCELLENCE GRADUATES

Beginning with students that entered high school for the first time in 2014-2015 and beyond, any candidate for graduation obtaining a 3.500 grade point average (GPA) or above on the Jump Start TOPS TECH Career Diploma track shall receive the Jump Start TOPS TECH Career Diploma Excellence Award. These students shall be recognized and wear color coded honor cords at graduation. Cumulative GPA shall be derived from all units of credits pursued and completed on their transcript.

MILITARY RECOGNITION

Any student that has enlisted in the armed forces shall be allowed to wear the stole which represents that branch of the armed forces at his/her graduation ceremony.

REGALIA (CORDS, SASHES, STOLES, MEDALS)

The wearing of regalia (cords, sashes, stoles, medals) during commencement shall be restricted to those which have been approved according to procedures of the School Board.

Revised: May, 1993
Revised: July, 1994
Revised: July, 1997
Revised: June, 2001
Revised: March 17, 2016
Revised: October 21, 2021
Revised: March 16, 2023
Revised: August 17, 2023

Ref: Board minutes, 7-18-91, 8-11-92, 5-19-94, 7-14-94, 7-17-97, 3-17-16, 10-21-21, 3-16-23, 8-17-23.