<center>Understanding Class Rank</center>

Understanding how a student's class rank is determined begins with an understanding of the 3 different methods of calculating a student's Grade Point Average (GPA.)

Cumulative GPA – This is the numerical average of the unweighted points assigned to every grade the student has earned. "Unweighted" means, for example, that a grade of 90 is worth 3 points whether that grade is earned in an Academic ("unweighted") class or a Pre-AP/AP ("weighted") class. Cumulative GPA is based on ALL high school classes the student has taken – core classes, electives, etc. This GPA can be viewed in Naviance, but is NOT used to determine class rank.

Weighted GPA – This is similar to Cumulative GPA except that it takes into account the increased value of points earned in weighted classes. For example, a 90 in a weighted class will receive 4 points rather than 3. As with Cumulative GPA, this number is based on ALL high school classes taken. This GPA can also be viewed in Naviance, but, like Cumulative GPA, it is NOT used to determine class rank. This is the GPA that appears on official transcripts that are sent to colleges.

Rank GPA – As the name suggests, this is the ONLY number that is used to determine a student's class rank. Like Weighted GPA, it does take into account whether or not a class is weighted. However, unlike the other two methods of calculating GPA, Rank GPA is not based on every class that a student has taken. In particular, Rank GPA is based only on the following:

1. Up to 4 semester grades in a single foreign language or 4 semester grades in computer programming languages selected from Computer Science 1, 2 or 3.
2. Up to 8 semester grades in classes that are required for graduation in each of the 4 core disciplines (Mathematics, Science, Language Arts, and Social Studies.)
3. If a student has more semester grades than indicated in #1 and #2 above in any single discipline, the grades that count are those with the highest weighted grade points.

Point #3 suggests that Rank GPA will not necessarily be based on the highest grades that a student has earned. It is possible for a lower grade to count towards Rank GPA if it carries with it more weighted grade points.

For example, suppose a student took 3 years of French and earned the grades indicated in the table below:

Course	Fr 1 (fall)	Fr 1 (sp)	Fr 2 (fall)	Fr 2 (spring)	Fr 3 (fall)	Fr 3 (spring)
Grade	95	99	96	96	93	93
Weighted Grade Points	3.5	3.9	3.6	3.6	4.3	4.3

Since French is a foreign language, only the "best" 4 semester grades count towards Rank GPA. The first 4 grades are the highest grades, so on the surface it would appear that those grades should count towards class rank. However, French 1 and French 2 are unweighted classes, while French 3 is a weighted class. Observe that the grades with the highest weight grade points are the two 93's in French 3, the 99 in French 1, and the 96 in French 2. Therefore, these are the 4 grades that would count towards Rank GPA.

Please note that NONE of these GPA's are calculated either manually or at the campus level. All GPA's are computer-calculated at the District level according to a formula devised by the District. All Courses that count towards Rank GPA are automatically chosen by the District for maximum benefit to the student.