
Academic Honors for Graduates

Proposal

Our Mission

- To investigate the concept of moving toward an Alternative Graduation Honors System and away from the Valedictorian and Salutatorian tradition.
 - Collaborate and Build Consensus with Faculty
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Our Work

- Launched a committee to research Alternative Graduation Honor Systems
 - We met several times throughout the 2018.2019 school year.
 - We had conversations with other school districts that use Alternative Graduation Honor Systems
 - Webster and Le Roy
 - We surveyed teachers and students
 - We had in depth conversations with departments
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Our Committee

Michelle Alvord (Counselor)
Rick Bull (Assistant Principal)
Rhonda Farrand (Math Teacher)
Dave Foster (Superintendent)
Jason Mank (Assistant Principal)
Eli Marcus (Science Teacher)
Lindsey Marcus (Counselor)
James Neeley (Spanish Teacher)
Mary Ellen O'Connell (Principal)
Shelby Seeley (Special Education)
Maddie Simon (English Teacher)
Lauren Skrzynski (Social Studies)
Bev Sweet (Social Studies - Sub)

Why look into a change?

- We have the opportunity to recognize more than two (2) students who have achieved academic excellence
 - Strong, well-rounded transcripts vs. GPA/Class Rank
 - Pressure and intensity to capture top spots often misguided, unhealthy and at times unethical
 - Class rank is not required or heavily considered for admission at most Colleges/Universities
 - Colleges recommend students focus on a well-rounded experience rather than only focusing on the numbers
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The numbers at a glance...

Year	Valedictorian	Salutatorian	Difference
2019	97.86	95.93	1.93
2018	100.65	100.55	.1
2017	101.42*	100.82*	.6
2016	100.94	99.12	1.82
2015	98.89	98.55	.34
2014	96.36	96.03	.33

Our Recommendations....

- We begin the Latin Honors Format with the Class of 2025.
 - Latin Honors Breakdown
 - Summa Cum Laude: 96% and Above
 - Magna Cum Laude: 92% to 95.99%
 - Cum Laude: 88% to 91.99%
 - Eliminate Publication of Class Rank (Unless required for College Admissions/Scholarship)
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An application of a Latin Honors System (GPA only)

	Class of 2019	Class of 2018	Class of 2017
96+	1	9	5
92+	18	11	7
88+	24	13	16
Total	43	33	28

These numbers reflect the actual count of students who would fall into these categories for recognition at graduation.

Additional Recommendations

- Recalibration of course point values
 - Keep the 5% bump in AP and College Courses Only (College Credit Bearing Courses)
 - Remove the bump from Honors Courses.
 - Keep Open Enrollment
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Ceremony Considerations (TBD)

- Students submit speeches. Speeches are chosen by a committee (Students & Faculty)
 - Announce Latin Honor status during Graduation Ceremony
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Thoughts/Questions
