

Instruction

Weighted Grading and Calculation of Grade Point Averages

The Stafford Board of Education (the “Board”) understands the importance of parents and students understanding the manner in which grades and grade point averages are calculated within Stafford Public Schools (the “District). In accordance with Connecticut law, this policy shall explain the manner in which grade point averages are calculated within the District.

The Board believes that, due to the rigorous nature of certain classes, the grades earned in such classes deserve additional weight for purposes of calculating grade point average and determining class rank. These rigorous classes include the following: honors classes, advanced placement classes, dual enrollment, dual credit or early college. Therefore, it is the policy of the Board to grant grades earned in such courses additional weight for the aforementioned purposes. Texts, assignments and independent work will vary among levels; however, all courses are in alignment with the district Core Values and Beliefs, and 21st Century Learning Expectations, and the Stafford Public Schools Portrait of the Graduate.

Regularly issued report cards, combined with scheduled parent-teacher conferences, and other communication vehicles helps promote a process of continuous evaluation of student progress.

The grading and reporting systems as developed by the administration and faculty are subject to the approval of the Superintendent or designee.

Weighted Grades

The Stafford High School curriculum contains a wide variety of courses at various levels of academic challenge. Students are allowed considerable choice and are encouraged to strive for academic excellence. A system of grade weighting recognizes the difference in student achievement. Grade weighting encourages and rewards students for selecting courses that are more challenging and of increased difficulty.

The grade weighting / class ranking system shall be implemented for the high school and published annually in the student / parent handbook and the Program of Studies.

Calculating of Weighted Grade Point Average

Rank in class is used to determine the valedictorian, salutatorian, and class scholar designations and students must attend Stafford High School three (3) academic years to be eligible at the time of graduation. The rank in class will be determined by adding up the grades for all courses and dividing by the number of credits.

All courses are assigned to one of three levels, with the highest level being considered the most difficult. Each level is assigned a quality point multiplier based upon academic difficulty. A student’s grade will be multiplied by an assigned point multiplier and then average to determine

6146.1 (b)

class rank. The Program of Studies identifies the level of difficulty for each course. Each level is assigned a quality point multiplier, as shown below:

General (Level I) = 1.0 College (Level II) = 1.05 Honors/AP/ECE (Level III) = 1.10

Note: Physical Education grades are included when computing grade point averages (GPA) for class rank. Independent study, courses taken on a pass/fail basis, and summer school grades are not utilized when computing class rank. Transfer credits are not utilized when computing class rank and will be designated as a “T” on the transcript.

The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible for implementing this policy and developing procedures in furtherance of this policy, if necessary.

(cf. 5124 – Reporting to the Parents)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes §10-220g

Public Act 21-199, “An Act Concerning Various Revisions and Additions to the Statutes Relating to Education and Workforce Development”

Policy adopted: October 15, 2018
Policy revised: July 18, 2022

STAFFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Stafford Springs, Connecticut