

**MERCER COUNTY SCHOOLS
Policy Comment(s) / Suggestion(s)**

**Policy: I-28
SENIOR CLASS RANKING**

Individual / Organization: _____
Title: _____
Address: _____

Comment(s) / Suggestion(s)

Please write your comments below in the sections that apply to the policy.

Use additional paper if necessary.

1.0 Purpose	Agree (reason)	Disagree (reason)
This policy is being revised to clarify Senior Class Ranking Procedures.		

2.0 Definitions	Agree (reason)	Disagree (reason)

3.0 Procedures	Agree (reason)	Disagree (reason)

General Comments	Agree (reason)	Disagree (reason)

Return comments **NO LATER THAN January 18, 2018** to:

Dr. Kristal Filipek - Director, Human Resources
Mercer County Schools
1403 Honaker Avenue
Princeton, WV 24740

SENIOR CLASS RANK

1.0 Purpose

The Board of Education recognizes that class ranking is one means of recognizing exemplary performance in rigorous academic courses throughout student's high school years. The Board further understands the importance of having consistency and fairness in the calculation of the senior class rank.

2.0 Definitions

- 2.1 GPA - (as reported by WVEIS on a student's transcript) the sum of all *quality points* divided by the number of courses the student has completed. Partial (.5) credit courses receive half the quality point value as would the same full credit course whether Standard, Honors, or Advanced.
- 2.2 Regular school setting – Regular, special, and/or technical education instruction taking place in a Mercer County Schools' facility during the designated school day.
- 2.3 **Top Scholar – A student holding one of the top ten (10) positions in the current graduating class rankings.**

3.0 Procedure

- 3.1 If a student is actively enrolled and will graduate at the end of the summer term or before the next school year begins, he/she will be placed in a senior homeroom.
- 3.2 To be eligible for inclusion in initial class ranking, the following criteria must be met:
 - 3.2a a student must have sufficient credits to be a senior; and
 - 3.2b at least seventy-five percent (75%) of the credits required for graduation must be earned in the regular school setting.
- 3.3 After seniors' first semester grades have been entered into the WVEIS system, school administrators will do an initial class ranking based upon the GPA as reported by WVEIS on student transcripts.
- 3.4 The Honor Graduate list shall consist of those students who rank in the top fifteen percent (15%) of this list. If fifteen percent (15%) of the graduating class equals a whole numeral plus decimal (Ex: 35.5 students), then the number will be rounded up to a whole student (Ex: 36 students). The Honor Graduates may be given preference by leading the

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processional and in seating arrangements at commencement exercises.

- 3.5 For students to be eligible for inclusion in the Top ~~Ten (10)~~ **Scholars** graduate ranking, a student must have earned at least twenty-eight (28) credits by the end of the first semester of the senior year. The following procedure will be employed to arrive at a final Top ~~Ten (10)~~ **Scholars** rank order, including designation of valedictorian (s) and salutatorians(s):
- 3.5.a After the initial class ranking has been done to identify Honors Students, administrators or counselors will remove from consideration the Honors Students who had amassed less than twenty-eight (28) credits.
 - 3.5.b From the remaining Honors Students, counselors will identify those having more than twenty-eight (28) credits and will reduce the number to twenty-eight (28) by selecting those twenty-eight (28) grades which will result in the highest GPA for the student.
 - 3.5.c GPAs will be recalculated by guidance counselors based upon exactly twenty-eight (28) total credits. Counselors will identify the students with the ten (10) highest GPA's carried through five (5) decimal places and rounded to four (4) decimal places. In the case of ties, more than ten students will be identified.
 - 3.5.d If multiple students have the same GPA carried to four (4) decimal places, then they will share the same ranking, including valedictorian or salutatorian.
 - 3.5e For schools with an enrollment that results in less than ten (10) honor students, the Top ~~Ten (10)~~ **Scholars** graduate ranking will only include the honor graduates. ~~and will be referred to as Top Scholars.~~ **See 3.4.**

4.0 Severability

If any portion of this policy or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this policy.

Authority: W.Va. Constitution, Article XII, §2, and W.Va. Code §§16-9A-4, 16-9A-9, 17A-1-1, 18-2-5, 18-2-5a, 18-2-7b, 18-2-9, 18-2-33, 18-2C-1 et seq., 18-5-1, 18-5-13, 18-16-1, 18A-1-1, 18A-5-1, 18A-5-1a, 60A-1-101, 60A-7-11a, 61-2-15, 61-7-2, and 61-7-11a.

Source: Board of Education Minutes, Policy Manual

Date(s): 11/15/62, 1/12/77, 7/22/82, 4/89, 8/26/03, 9/22/09, 9/13/11, 11/28/17