

**MARSHALL COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL
SBDM COUNCIL
BUILDING POLICY**

I. GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES FOR DETERMINING VALEDICTORIAN SALUTATORIAN, AND HONOR GRADUATES

1. The graduating senior(s) having earned the highest will be the valedictorian(s). The graduating senior(s) with the second highest GPA will be the salutatorian(s).
2. The total number of grades to be considered in determining class valedictorian and salutatorian shall not exceed the maximum number of courses a student in a given graduating class could accumulate while enrolled in regular school day attendance at Marshall County High School for four consecutive years. The regular school day is defined as that time frame during which all students are attending classes and does not include any "early bird" or after normal school hours classes.
3. Only grades earned in advanced placement classes as outlined in the curriculum framework at Marshall County High School will be given weighted value in determining GPA for purposes of Valedictorian and Salutatorian honors. In the event the curriculum changes during the course of a student's four years at MCHS, the principal and school counselors, in consultation with the SBDM council, may make any necessary adjustments (including but not limited to granting credit for online courses) to allow all students to compete on an equal footing, but no action will be taken to give any student an advantage with respect to these honors.
4. Honor graduates will be those students with a GPA of 3.50 (no rounding) and higher.

II. GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES FOR ADJUSTING GRADING AND QUALITY POINT SCALES FOR ADVANCED PLACEMENT CLASSES.

The Adjusted Quality Point Scale will be:

- a. A grade of "A" will earn 5 quality points on a 4.0 scale.
- b. A grade of "B" will earn 4 quality points on a 4.0 scale.
- c. A grade of "C" will earn 3 quality points on a 4.0 scale.
- d. No adjustment for letter grades of "D" or "F".

- III. Transfer students who have obtained credit for AP courses as a part of their normal curriculum in their previous school(s) will be given the credit for their grade that they received at their previous school. Students who have AP courses transferred from another school and who have taken the AP exam will receive the same consideration had the course been taken at MCHS. For purposes of valedictorian, salutatorian and class rank, any courses in excess of maximum number which could have been taken at MHS will not be given weighted value.

BOARD POLICY 08.2211, *ACADEMIC HONORS*, SHALL ALSO BE HONORED IN REGARD TO DETERMINING VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN STATUS.

Commentary:

This policy is designed to encourage students to achieve to the best of their ability. Over any four year period, the curriculum is subject to change, particularly in the area of advanced placement courses. There are occasions when courses are added, and occasions when courses are deleted. Sometimes, courses are deleted because there are not sufficient students to take a course. Other times, interest in a particular area may result in the addition of a course. In addition, there are occasions where a student is unable to take a particular course because of unavoidable schedule conflicts. In order to maintain a philosophy which encourages students to reach their full potential, this policy will be applied in a manner which allows all students to compete equally for valedictorian and salutatorian honors. The policy gives leeway to the administration and the SBDM to make adjustments in special situations to maintain an equal playing field but does not allow for students to take additional AP courses outside the normal curriculum solely for the purpose of obtaining the “highest” GPA for valedictorian honors.

REVISED 11-09-09
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