

February 10, 2020

LLS Spotlight

Recognition of Student Achievement



Our message to learners....

- Learning is not defined by a timetable
- Learning should allow for growth
- Learning involved making mistakes
- Learning at a deeper level for all content areas is not realistic for all students
- Learning and Positive-Well Being go hand-in-hand



Recent Academic Changes

- Implementation of Standards-Based Learning
- Improved Teacher Assessment System
- Increased Academic Expectations
- (Locally - RAI has dropped the Class Rank aspect)



Current Practice

- Reward the Top GPA
 - Does not allow for mistakes
 - High Pressure for Students, High Pressure for Teachers
- Reward second-best GPA
 - Allows for one mistake
 - High Pressure
- Does not recognize Academic Achievement of others
- Has lead to course load and class avoidance



Proposed Change

Honors Graduation System

- Summa Cum Laude (With Highest Distinction)
- Magna Cum Laude (With Great Distinction)
- Cum Laude (With Distinction)

Removal of Valedictorian Recognition, Salutatorian Recognition and Class Rank

Note - students must still meet all graduation requirements (J-Term, required courses, etc)



Rationale

- Allows for more focus on learning and not simply grades
- Allows for realistic learning expectations
- Allows for recognition of more students
- Allows for students to not be perfect
- Emphasizes rigorous class schedule (next slide)



Summa Cum Laude (Highest Distinction)

- Must successfully complete identified courses from 6 of 7 Departments
 - ELA - College Writing
 - Math - Advanced Algebra or Calculus
 - Science - Advanced Chemistry, Anatomy and Physiology, or AP Computer Science
 - Social Studies - Economics or Psychology
 - Foreign Language - Spanish 3 or Spanish 4
 - Fine Arts - any Art, Band or Choir
 - CTE - any course excluding Personal Finance and Business Exploratory
- Minimum 3.75 Cumulative GPA
- No Academic Dishonesty violations
- No Pass/Fail options in place of Letter-Grade system



Magna Cum Laude (Great Distinction)

- Must successfully complete identified courses from 5 of 7 Departments
 - ELA - College Writing
 - Math - Advanced Algebra or Calculus
 - Science - Advanced Chemistry, Anatomy and Physiology, or AP Computer Science
 - Social Studies - Economics or Psychology
 - Foreign Language - Spanish 3 or Spanish 4
 - Fine Arts - any Art, Band or Choir
 - CTE - any course excluding Personal Finance and Business Exploratory
- Minimum 3.5 Cumulative GPA
- No Academic Dishonesty violations
- No Pass/Fail options in place of Letter-Grade system



Cum Laude (Honors)

- Minimum 3.25 Cumulative GPA
- No Academic Dishonesty violations
- No Pass/Fail options in place of Letter-Grade system



Proposed Implementation

- Class of 2020 - no changes to system
- Class of 2021 - must meet all requirements except Department Courses
- Class of 2022 & beyond - must meet all requirements



Wrap Up

- Questions
- Feedback

Note - No Action Needed - will be part of Student Handbook Changes

