

KANAWHA COUNTY SCHOOLS ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION
Series: I29A - Weighted Grades

29.01 Honors/Advanced Education Experiences. Honors/Advanced Education experiences are designed to meet the needs of students who have the potential to complete curriculum more demanding than that offered in the regular classroom and their current grade level. These classes are advanced in terms of content and performance expectations and provide credit toward graduation or possible college credit. Honors experiences may include, but shall not be limited to, specifically identified honors courses, dual credit courses, research and in-depth studies, mentorships, content-focused seminars and extended learning outcomes instruction in the content areas. Advanced education includes classes recognized or offered by The College Board, postsecondary institutions and other recognized foundations, corporation or institutions, accelerated instructional courses offered virtually and other courses and arrangements, approved by the local board of education and state board. Advanced Placement Courses (AP) must follow the course descriptions provided by The College Board and students are required to take the AP test. AP teachers are required to attend training once every three years during the summer. International Baccalaureate courses must follow the course descriptions provided by the IB Organization.

Curriculum approved under this section shall be designed to advance the achievement of students in the subject area or areas in which the student has achieved at least two of the following criteria: (a) demonstrated exceptional ability and interest through past performance; (b) obtained the prerequisite knowledge and skills to perform honors or advanced work; and, (c) receive recommendation from the student's former or present teachers.

All courses designated as Honors and Advanced Education and college/high school dual credit will receive a weighted grade.

29.02 Procedure for Special Courses. Upon recommendation of the principal, individual schools may petition the Division of Curriculum and Instruction for approval of special courses taught at that school and postsecondary courses identified by that school. Such petitions must be reviewed by Division staff and approved by the Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction prior to inclusion. Each petition will be considered on an individual basis. Each school will develop a list of Honors/ Advanced Education Courses that shall include courses from the county list and any other division approved courses.

29.03 Honors/Advanced Education Courses (Weighted). Honors and Advanced Courses (weighted) will be listed in the county and/or school course description handbook. Courses will be reviewed by the Curriculum and Instruction Division annually.

29.04 Honor for Commencement Activities. Honors bestowed upon graduating seniors in Kanawha County shall be based on outstanding achievement in a rigorous academic program during the course of the student's school experience. Computations for honors designation shall be made at the end of the first semester of the senior year.

3.8 GPA -Honors

4.0 GPA with a minimum of 14 weighted credits - High Honors

4.5 GPA with a minimum of 14 weighted credits - Highest Honors

29.05 Computation For Class Ranking. Computations for class ranking shall be made at the end of the first semester of the senior year. The following scale shall be used to determine class ranking:

Non-Weighted Courses

A = 4

B = 3

C = 2

D = 1

E = 0

Weighted Courses

A = 5

B = 4

C = 3

D = 2

E = 0

29.06 Transfer Students. Students transferring from one school to another within the District shall have their credits accepted at face value and shall be considered for honors. Students transferring to Kanawha County Schools from a school outside the county must have spent the whole of their senior year in Kanawha County Schools before they can be considered honor graduate. Students who transfer from outside the District and who are not eligible to be considered honor graduates may, however, be given recognition.

29.07 Commencement Recognition. Honor graduates may be given preference by leading the processional and in seating arrangements at commencement exercises.

29.08 School Profile/Transcript Statement. Each school shall include the following statement on the School Profile/Transcript Supplement: "To eliminate negative competition among students and to allow more flexibility in course selection, Kanawha County Schools has adopted the following designations for honor graduates:

3.8 GPA -Honors

4.0 GPA with a minimum of 14 weighted credits - High Honors

4.5 GPA with a minimum of 14 weighted credits - Highest Honors