

Dear Parents,

In line with new graduation requirements that have been approved for the Class of 2023 and beyond, we felt it was important to also address an issue with how courses are named, which traditionally has been very confusing to parents, students, and colleges receiving our students' transcripts.

Currently, our course names include numbers to indicate the year course was taken and the rigor level. Over time, changes that have occurred to some of the course names and our curriculum pacing have created many inaccuracies and inconsistencies. For example, our course called English 11 indicates a Freshman Honors course, not Grade 11 English. As a result, we have decided to create new names that increase clarity and transparency on our transcripts. In the example, the new course will be called English 9 Honors.

In addition, one of our current grade weighting levels (Level 0) creates inequities between electives and core courses and also creates inequities between higher performers and lower performers in how their grade is calculated.

Specifically, Level 0 is the same weight as Level 1 (Honors) for grades A+ through C and then is the same weight as Level 2 (College Prep) for grades C- through F. Also, since many electives are weighted at Level 0, they get a higher GPA weight than many of our core classes at Level 2. (Example: Baking and Pastry 20 is weighted higher than US History 32).

These changes necessitated a review of the current GPA scale for our courses. The high school administration is requesting the Board of Education consider a change to the grade weighting scale for Grade Point Averages (GPA) to be phased in over the next two years. The proposed new GPA scale will impact incoming 9th graders starting next year, but the name changes will apply to all courses next year.

See Proposal Below:

Proposed Scale*

GRADE	AP	Honors	College Prep
A	5.00	4.50	4.00
B	4.00	3.50	3.00
C	3.00	2.50	2.00
D	2.00	1.50	1.00
F	0.00	0.00	0.00

Current Scale*

GRADE	AP	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 0	LEVEL 2
A	4.67	4.33	4.33	4.00
B	3.67	3.33	3.33	3.00
C	2.67	2.33	2.33	2.00
D	1.67	1.33	1.00	1.00
F	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

*To make things easier to read, these scales do not include the "+" and "-" grades for each letter grade. However, they will still be grades that can be earned by students.

Summary of the Proposal:

1. Move to a new scale that has 3 levels (AP, Honors, and College Prep) instead of 4.
2. Increase the weight of Honors and AP courses, so the new scale increment between levels is .5, instead of .33
3. New scale does not have Level 0; most core electives (English, Social Studies, Math, Science and World Language) will be Honors weight; non-core electives will be College Prep level.
4. Provide weighted and unweighted GPA scores on college transcripts and to students and families since many colleges often use the unweighted scale.

For a more detailed description, analysis, and background research completed to formulate this proposal, please visit our website or click the following link.

[Course Naming and GPA Proposal](#)