

## **CLASS RANK, VALEDICTORIAN GUIDELINES**

### Class Rank

Grade point averages are computed at the end of the year for 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 11<sup>th</sup> grades. Grades for honor or advanced placement courses are awarded a higher value so that the grade point average will be weighted to reflect the difficulty of the coursework. Preliminary computations for senior grade point average and class rank will be done at the end of the seventh semester. This information will be available for colleges, scholarship agencies, and prospective employers. However, the final ranking for commencement will not be completed until after the end of the fourth nine weeks. The class rank of students who do not attend 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 11<sup>th</sup> grades in the East Cleveland City School District shall reflect this fact.

### Valedictorian Guidelines

In order to be named Valedictorian, a student must meet the following criteria:

- A. Earn an Honors Diploma;
- B. Take four of the following courses at Shaw High School: AP Language Arts, AP Government, A.P. Environmental Science, Physics, Anatomy, Calculus, Spanish IV or French IV, four years of the same elective (not semester classes);
- C. Have the highest grade point average in the graduating class, based on a 4.0 scale, including the final grades for the last semester of the senior year; and
- D. Attend Shaw High School for at least two (2) years.

Any student who meets the above criteria with the exception of attending Shaw High School for at least two (2) years may be designated as a Valedictorian in a limited status.

The Salutatorian must meet the same criteria as the Valedictorian, but will have the second highest grade point average in the class. In the event that two or more students have the same grade point average, the student with the highest score on the ACT/SAT will be name Valedictorian, and the student with the second highest score on the ACT/SAT will be named Salutatorian. It is possible that multiple Valedictorians and/or Salutatorians will be named. Any student who achieves at least a 3.900 grade point average will be named a “Graduate with Distinction.” This designation does not require the student to earn an Honors Diploma.

Final grades on all report cards and transcripts must be on the traditional letter grading system (A, B, C, D, F), including the use of pluses or minuses to indicate the student’s performance within the letter category. The only exceptions are courses only offered on a Pass/Fail basis.

The student is required to notify his/her guidance counselor at the conclusion of the Junior year that he/she intends to be eligible for Valedictory status.

Questions regarding the selection of Valedictorian and Salutatorian shall be addressed first to the Principal of Shaw High School with the final decision resting with the Superintendent.