

## Class Rank FAQ

### 1. What is the rationale behind this proposed change?

- a. OFHS does not use exact class rank for anything other than invitations to the Olmsted Falls Academic Banquet. Since the top 10% are invited, a list will be generated each year and provided so that the Academic Boosters can continue with this process.
- b. Students have indicated that they are unwilling to take classes for fear of lowering their exact class rank. An example would be a student not wanting to take band since band is not weighted. OFHS is focused on student learning and growth - not taking classes because of exact class rank limits the ability for a student to try classes as they work toward figuring out their college or career pathway.
- c. We cannot and will not weight all classes nor we will eliminate the weighting on existing classes.
- d. We do not recognize Valedictorian or Salutatorian.
- e. The highly selective colleges we contacted indicated that they can use other measures to determine admittance to college. Colleges use other measures for admissions and the colleges we talked to said many high schools are moving away from class rank.
- f. Ultimately, we want to do what is best and fair for ALL students.

### 2. What would we do if students needed their exact class rank for scholarships?

- a. The United States Military Academies are an example of a college that requests exact class rank. In this case, we would still have the internal ranking to provide this information.
- b. If a student needed this for a specific scholarship, they simply need to ask their school counselor for this information.

### 3. How would we report this?

- a. On an application, we would be able to group them into a percentage-based category (i.e. top 10%).
- b. We would indicate on the Common Application that we report class rank based upon percentages.

### 4. What exactly is the proposal?

- a. We advocate for taking this off the transcript because this is not an accurate reflection of where the student is relative to other students in other schools.
- b. Since students can choose HOW they will earn credit in multiple ways, they CANNOT choose how their rank is reported.

For example....Polaris student 3 credits of a non-weighted grades.

Show the jump in one semester for our students.

- c. We think this is more fair since it puts students in a large category instead of

single digit report. (i.e. Top 10% versus 28th out of 300).

**5. Why now? What has changed?**

- a. CCP State Requirement - visit [https://www.ohiohighered.org/content/college\\_credit\\_plus\\_info\\_students\\_families](https://www.ohiohighered.org/content/college_credit_plus_info_students_families)
- b. Students can take classes in the summer.
- c. Fall grades - if we look at the jump in class rank, students grew or fell by double digits based upon the coursework.
- d. An example - a student in the 7th grade, earning A's in CCP classes, would be almost impossible to catch up to for class rank.
- e. CCP gives one year's worth of credit for one semester's worth of work.
- f. CCP gives a weighted grade for each semester translating into 2 years worth of credits and grades for 1 years worth of coursework.
- g. With Naviance (our CMS for students) we only add in GPA, not rank.

**6. Who will this change, if BOE approved, impact?**

- a. The recommendation will be to eliminate class rank from the transcript beginning with the class of 2017.
- b. The rationale behind the proposal for next year is that any student in grades 7-12 who qualifies to take CCP classes. If we "grandfather" this in, all students grades 7-12 right now could be negatively impacted by the weighted calculation.

**7. How has this been communicated to the students? Parents? Teachers?**

- a. The faculty has already discussed this change. It is our building recommendation to ask the Board for this change.
- b. The first parent meeting took place at the March PTA meeting. We will be holding another parent meeting on May 2, 2016 in the High School Media Center.
- c. The senior class is not impacted by this change. A class meeting was held in April for the freshman and sophomores. We will hold informational meetings during the lunch periods for all juniors.

**8. What do I do if I have specific questions?**

Call (440) 427-6100 - Holly Schafer or email [hschafer@ofcs.net](mailto:hschafer@ofcs.net).

