

Information on Class Rank in District 833

Supporting students as they seek college admission.



Beginning in the 2013-14 school year, District 833's three high schools determined not to report out class rank. Rather, a process for recognizing students is now reported in a manner that is common to upper education. Students with a grade point average (GPA) of 4.0 or higher will be recognized summa cum laude, those with a 3.667-3.999 GPA will be magna cum laude and those with a 3.5-3.666 GPA will be cum laude.

Research shows that many colleges have already taken class rank out of consideration for admissions and scholarships. Within district high schools, the average grade in the building is as high as a B+, resulting in highly successful students ranking in the lower half of their graduating class.

Class Rank has **declined** from being rated 'considerably important' by **42%** of colleges in **1993** to only **19%** of colleges rating it as such in **2011**.
Hanover Research K-12 Blog, 2013.

Students' class rank or percentile will not be shared except in rare circumstances when it is needed for an application to be considered. In that case, counselors report out rank directly to the college or scholarship inquiry. The district joins a number of high schools across the metropolitan area in this practice, including: Blake, Bloomington, Chaska, Cretin Derham Hall, Eden Prairie, Hill Murray, Hopkins, Irondale, Minnetonka, Mounds View, Stillwater and Wayzata.

Why change class rank reporting? In order for our students to:

- » Focus on what classes they are taking and grades in those classes, not how they compare to their peers;
- » Compete against a standard rather than each other;
- » Have their individual accomplishments acknowledged by admissions or scholarship committees instead of being compared to their classmates; and
- » Be considered for admissions and scholarships using a subjective, holistic approach.

How are students recognized?

- » 4.0 GPA or higher: Summa Cum Laude
- » 3.667-3.999 GPA: Magna Cum Laude
- » 3.5-3.666 GPA: Cum Laude

How does class rank work?

- » Class rank or percentile will only be reported directly to the college/scholarship in the highly unlikely event that it must be reported in order for the student to be considered.
- » Other than those unique circumstances, class rank information will not be available to colleges, scholarships, students or families.

