Vanguard Academy Parent and Student Handbook

3.3 ACADEMIC REPORTING

Students will receive academic reports four times throughout the school year. In addition, conferences will be held four times annually.

Parents have the opportunity to view student progress on a regular basis throughout the school year by using the online student information system, PowerSchool and Canvas

Report cards communicate the student's individual score for all graded work, including the student's achievement test scores. The report card will assign the student a letter grade for each subject based upon the score achieved. The report card will also include the student's citizenship grade and the student's attendance record for the marking period.

During the conferences, the parent can expect to see the student's achievement scores, and an assessment of the student's next term performance. At any time through the year, teachers are available to the parents to discuss the student's strengths and successes, specific areas and strategies for student improvement, and a report of the student's social behavior.

Grade Point Average (GPA)

Definitions:

<u>Unweighted GPA</u> is measured on a scale of 0 to 4.0. It doesn't take the difficulty of a student's coursework into account. Unweighted GPA represents an A as a 4.0 whether it was earned in an honor, concurrent enrollment, or regular class.

Weighted GPA

Weighted GPA takes into account course difficulty rather than providing the same letter grade to GPA conversion for every course. Weighted GPA is measured on a scale of 0 to 5.0 for CE classes and 4.5 for honors and accelerated courses.

Vanguard Weighted GPA

Vanguard Weighted GPA is determined using the 32.5 Vanguard required highschool credits giving priority to college courses. When choosing between which HS credit will be applied we will choose the course that is the most advantageous for the student.

Class Ranking

Class rank is a way to see how your academic achievements measure up to those of your classmates. Your class rank is determined by comparing your Vanguard Weighted GPA to the GPA of people in the

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same grade as you. Every time new grades are added to transcripts, class rankings are updated and your rank may go up or down.

Specific Course GPA Policy (when is a course included/excluded in the GPA)

- Does this course give a letter grade or is it pass or no pass
 - Teacher recommendation
 - Will the student need credit from this class for Vanguard graduation credit requirements?
 - o If yes the class will have a letter grade using the approved Vanguard grade scale
 - A course that does not have specific course content for that course would be pass/no pass
 - We will label the transcripts with the specific credits that will be pass/no pass
- Will the grade from this class be counted in the GPA calculation?
 - Will the student need credit from this class for Vanguard graduation credit requirements?
 - o If yes the grade will be counted in the weighted GPA calculation
 - A letter grade would be included in GPA calculation
 - Students are required to have 32.5 credits in order to graduate from Vanguard.
 - o 32.5 of those credits are in required classes.
 - 5.5 of those credits may be obtained in elective classes. When calculating a student's weighted GPA, grades for the 27.5 required classes will be included. Of those 5.5 Elective Credits priority will first be given in this order;
 - College Classes
 - Honors Class
 - P/NP
 - Regular High School Class

Priority will always be given to the grade that is the most advantageous to the student.

- Will the class grade be used in calculating the students' class ranking?
 - Will the student need credit from this class for Vanguard graduation credit requirements?
 - o If yes the grade will be counted in the class ranking

- Will this class/grade be weighted?
 - o If the class meets the schools guidelines for weighting the class will be weighted.
- What do I do, with a student's excess credits, if a student has earned credits in excess of the required graduation credits?
 - Additional credits will be shown on the bottom of the transcript and will not be considered in the weighted GPA calculation or class rank.
 - We will include the courses that are most advantageous to the student in the calculation of the GPA and class rank.
 - If the State Graduation Requirement is 0.5 credits we will use 0.5 credits of the equivalent CE course. If necessary we will use the additional 0.5 credits in the Elective without the grade.

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- What do I do with a student that has less class credits than the required Vanguard Graduation requirements?
 - The student is allowed to count ungraded classes (Pass/No pass) toward Vanguard credit requirements according to Vanguard Policy.

Vanguard Weighted GPA will be calculated based on graded classes that will go towards Vanguard Graduation credit requirements using graded credit classes that are most advantageous to the students GPA.

Vanguard's official and reported overall class ranking will be calculated based on weighted graded classes that will go towards Vanguard Graduation credit requirements using graded credits for classes that will be most advantageous to the student. Students will be ranked at each grade level.

We will have a weighted and unweighted GPA on the Transcripts. We will also display how we calculate class rank and weighted gpa on the transcript.

Weighted GPA will be calculated according to the following scale:

Standard GPA		Honors GPA		CE Weighted GPA	
Α	4	Α	4.5	Α	5
A-	3.67	A-	4.17	A-	4.67
B+	3.33	B+	3.83	B+	4.33
В	3	В	3.5	В	4

B-	2.67	B-	3.17	B-	3.67
C+	2.33	C+	2.83	C+	3.33
С	2	С	2.5	С	3
C-	1.67	C-	2.17	C-	2.67

To calculate the GPA

- 1st Obtain the GPA template with 32.5 credits showing the correct graduation labels. Ex. Language Arts 4.0, Mathematics 4.0, etc.
- 2nd Copy the students historical grades to the left of the template.
- o 3rd Sort historical grades by the course number.
- 4th Cut and paste the most advantageous classes in the template under each correct section. (Honors Math will be more advantageous to students if they have room in their elective credits to count their CE math credits.)
- All math can only be replaced if a student has successfully completed MATH 1210.
- Secondary Math III can be replaced with a higher level math class.
- 5th Cut and paste (do not erase) credits that are not the most advantageous to the students and move to the bottom of the sheet, under the additional credit section.
- 6th enter the correct grade under the CE column.
- 7th Verify that your formulas are calculated correctly. (check and make sure it includes all applicable cells.)
- 8th double check that you are using the courses that are most advantageous to the student. P/NP will give a higher GPA than an A in a high school class.
- 9th try to use all CE classes somewhere in the graduation requirements including the 5.5 Elective requirements. Semester GPA will be calculated based on the graded classes taken that semester. (2020-2021 School Year)

2021-2022 School Year and beyond will be calculated by using a Graduation Plan Progress set up in PowerSchool. Following the same procedure.

GPA policy will be applied to

Class Rank will be calculated using Vanguard Weighted GPA

Student Government GPA requirement

GPA requirement to run for student government is the higher of a 3.25 Weighted Cumulative GPA or the current year 1st Semester Weighted GPA.

To remain in student government a student will be held to the standard of a 3.5 gpa requirement. If a student falls below that requirement the student will be placed on probation and will meet with the

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student government advisor, parents will be contacted, and a plan of action will be created. At the next reporting period students grades will be re-evaluated to determine if further action is needed.

Valedictorian & Salutatorian

Valedictorian & Salutatorian will be determined based on the Vanguard weighted GPA after 2nd semester grades are posted.

<u>Awards</u>

All academic awards will be determined with the weighted GPA, except our 4.0 medal which will be given to students that achieved a 4.0 unweighted high school cumulative GPA.

Concurrent Enrollment Eligibility

Governance Committee Approval 4/22/2021

Concurrent Enrollment will be determined based on the cumulative weighted GPA. The 9th grade eligibility requirement is a weighted GPA of 3.8. 10th grade eligibility requirement is a weighted GPA of 3.5. 11th-12th grade eligibility is a weighted GPA of 3.0.

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Director Approval 4/22/2021	
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