

VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN POLICY

The class valedictorian is the student (or students) ranked number one in the graduating class at the end of the eighth semester and who has/have met the criteria listed below. The class salutatorian is the student (or students) with the second highest GPA and who has/have met the criteria listed below. The rank is determined by the final grade point average (GPA). The following rules are applied to ensure fairness in the determination:

1. The student must have attended Ashland High School for a minimum of two semesters.
2. The student must have attended high school for a minimum of six semesters.
3. The courses included in the calculation of the GPA are used to determine class rank.
4. Only final course grades are used. Nine-week and semester grades do not count. Plusses and minuses do not affect GPA.
5. Honors, advanced, or advanced placement courses are not granted additional weight.
6. Students who transfer from systems with weighted grades will not have an unfair advantage over other students – the GPA will be calculated without weights.
7. Students must also qualify for an Honors Diploma as determined by the State of Ohio.
8. While at Ashland High School students must complete the following rigorous college prep coursework requirements without substitution.*

English – one credit from the following courses: British Literature, Advanced Composition, A.P. English OR at least 4 credits in Phase 4 and/or Phase 5 courses including College Credit Plus courses at Ashland High School.

Math – Pre-Calculus or higher

Science – one credit from the following courses: Anatomy and Physiology, Genetics, Microbiology, AP Environmental Science, Physics, A.P. Biology, and A.P. Chemistry, Advanced Inorganic Chemistry, Advanced Organic Chemistry.

Social Studies – one credit from the following courses: AP Government, AP US History, Psychology, Sociology, Western Civilization I, Western Civilization II, and Economic Theory

World Languages – three years of the same language

9. All students with the highest GPA (including ties) having met other qualifications are considered class valedictorians, and the student(s) with the second highest GPA having met other qualifications will be salutatorian(s).
10. All students satisfying the above rules are eligible. All credits earned that meet Board and State guidelines are qualified (Career Center students, special education students, tutored and home-instructed students, educational options).

*Pre-approved CCP courses are not considered substitutions.