

## CALIFORNIA AREA HIGH SCHOOL VALEDICTORIAN POLICY

The board of directors approved the following valedictorian policy during the May 2006 Action School Board meeting. This policy is to be in effect for the 2006-2007 Freshman Class (Class of 2010).

Valedictorian selection will be based on a non-weighted grading system. All students with a 4.0 GPA who have met the requirements of the "Honors Program," will be valedictorians. If there are no 4.0 GPA's the valedictorian will be the Honors Program student(s) with the highest GPA in the class.

When scheduling for 9<sup>th</sup> grade, students will declare a program which they plan to pursue for the next four years. The available programs are:

- Honors Program** – for students planning on attending college
- Career / Technical Program** – for students planning on attending the Vo Tech School and pursuing a related career
- Academic Program** – for students planning on pursuing a career that may not require college or Vo Tech preparation

The valedictorian must be a member of the **Honors Program** and must meet the following requirements for that program:

- 4 credits of English to include Honors 9, Honors 10, Honors 11, and AP English
- 4 credits of Math. Calculus and Statistics are recommended but the minimum of Algebra III/Trig must be met.
- 4 credits of Science to include Biology, Chemistry, and Physics and a minimum of one advanced science course
- 4 credits of Social Studies with a minimum of College History I and either College History II or Psychology.
- 3 credits of a Foreign Language
- 2 credits of Physical Education
- ½ credit of Health or First Aid
- ½ credit of Family and Consumer Science
- 4 credits of Electives

\*NOTE: At least 4 College-In-The-High School / Dual Enrollment courses must be included.

To be considered for valedictorian the student must have attended California High School for at least the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade years.

Students who take advanced courses (which are not available at CHS) at an approved college or university, and have taken all the required courses at CHS, are eligible for valedictorian status. College courses may only be substituted for required high school

courses with prior permission of the principal. All college courses require prior registration with the Guidance Office. **All** college grades will be included in GPA calculation and must be provided to the Guidance Office on an official college document within one week of receiving the grade. Failure to do so will result in an “F” being recorded on your high school transcript.

The valedictorian(s) will be recognized at graduation with a medallion. The valedictorian(s) will be expected to speak briefly at the graduation ceremony. If there should be more than three valedictorians they will not speak at graduation. Instead, their speeches will be printed, along with their pictures, in the commencement program.

The salutatorian will be the student(s) in the **Honors Program** with the next highest GPA in the senior class. This student(s) will also receive a medallion at the graduation ceremony.

The top ranked student(s) in the **Career / Technical Program** and the **Academic Program** will also be recognized at the graduation ceremony receiving “Honor Graduate” medallions.

All students, regardless of selected program of study, will continue to be recognized for honors level GPA's with the appropriate colored cords.