

**WEIGHTED GRADING SYSTEM**

The following is the grading scale that will be used in the Nodaway-Holt R-VII School District.

Percent	Letter Grade	Honor Points
96-100	A	4.000
90-95	A-	3.667
87-89	B+	3.333
84-86	B	3.000
80-83	B-	2.667
77-79	C+	2.333
74-76	C	2.000
70-73	C-	1.667
67-69	D+	1.333
64-66	D	1.000
60-63	D-	0.667
59 or less	F	0.000

All grades will be weighted according to difficulty. The classes are weighted as follows:

Level 1.0

Agriculture Construction, Agriculture Economy, Agriculture Power, Agriculture Science I, Agriculture Structures, American History, Animal Science, Art I, Band, Child Development I, Choir, CNR, Consumer Math, Current Events, Earth Science, Economics, English I, Environmental Science, FACS/Health, Forestry, Food Science, Foods, Geography, Government, Housing, Music Appreciation, Nutrition & Wellness, Physical Education, Physical Science, Plant Science, Political Science, Pre-Algebra, Weights & Conditioning, World History, Yearbook

Vocational Technical Classes, which include the following: Auto Tech, Building Trades, Child Care, Collision Repair, Culinary Arts, Health Services, Mechanical Industrial Tech, Welding & Machine Shop

Level 1.1

ACT Prep, Agriculture Science II, Algebra I, Art II, Biology, Career Development, Career Pathways, Child Development II, Desktop Publishing, English II, Entrepreneurship, Multimedia, Personal Finance

Level 1.2

Algebra II, Business Technology, Chemistry, Computer Applications, English III, Geometry, Spanish I, STEM

Level 1.3

Anatomy, English IV, Physiology, Spanish II, Statistics

Level 1.4

All dual credit and/or college credit courses

Dual credit classes change often. Please see the school counselor for details.

Along with traditional classroom courses, the district has access to additional courses not offered by our teachers. Enrollment in virtual learning is subject to schedule availability along with counselor and administrative approval. Weighted placement will be determined on an individual class basis. For more information on virtual learning refer to Meeting Educational Needs section of the JH & HS Handbook on page 11, or refer to the MOCAP section on the school website.

## Graduation System

At Nodaway-Holt R-VII School District, we prepare our graduates for college, career and citizenship. Starting with the graduating class of 2020, Nodaway-Holt will adopt the laude system to recognize graduates for their success in rigorous programs instead of the traditional class rank, Valedictorian, and Salutatorian system. The rationale for this change was to adopt a form of recognition that most colleges and universities use to acknowledge their most successful students at graduation. Additionally, we wanted to provide recognition to more of our outstanding seniors than the Valedictorian and Salutatorian concept allowed. Instead, these designations will be used:

- Summa Cum Laude (meaning with the highest praise) – Highest Honors – Weighted GPA 3.900 or above
- Magna Cum Laude (meaning with great praise) – High Honors – Weighted GPA 3.700 – 3.899
- Cum Laude (meaning with praise) – Honors – Weighted GPA 3.500 – 3.699

In January of 2020 the Board of Education approved the new academic recognition and eliminated the class ranking system for the following reasons:

**High Achievement:** Students are more focused on the educational value of their class selection. They choose to take a broader range of course work to balance and improve their educational experience – rather than selecting a course for the potential weighted grade to increase their class rank.

**Top Performing Schools:** Schools around the state and nation can be vastly different. Students from different high schools may have selected vastly different courses and may have earned different grades – but have the same class rank to report to colleges as Nodaway-Holt students in their top performing schools.

**Increase Post-Secondary Opportunities:** Research shows that colleges may consider applicants more individually when class rank is not a factor. Factors such as academics, test scores, course rigor and extracurricular activities may become the focus. Most importantly, it means that our graduates applying for college will be competing with all applicants, not just the students within their own high school.

The top two weighted grade point averages will speak at graduation.