

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE HIGHER EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

- I. The School District shall annually designate academic scholars as specified by State Statutes for purposes of the Wisconsin Academic Excellence Higher Education Scholarship. The scholars shall be the seniors with the highest grade point average (GPA) and shall not include high school courses taken while in middle school. The scholars shall be named in accordance with the timelines required by law. Presently, the law requires determination to be made by February 15th of each year. Therefore, the final valedictorian and salutatorian may not necessarily be the same students who receive Academic Excellence awards (Policy 5451.02).
- II. In order for a student to be eligible to compete for the scholarship, the student must have been in attendance at the District high school for at least three full semesters and have completed sufficient credits to equal 6 semesters of high school to have acquired senior status.
- III. Grading – The cumulative grade point average is based on a 4.0 grading scale. Advance Placement courses are based upon a 5.0 scale. Grades from study abroad, and alternative or home schools, are graded on a Pass/Fail basis. Pass/Fail courses impact the grade point average according to the following:
 - A. A “P” has no impact on the grade point average, though credit is earned
 - B. An “F” is included in the calculation of the grade point average, with no credit being earned
 - C. With the exception of Pass/Fail courses, all courses are included in the calculation of the grade point average.
- IV. Tie Breakers – The following tie breaking process shall be put into place in situations where two or more students have earned the same grade point average:
 - A. Intent to attend a Wisconsin institution of higher education. (Students will be asked to indicate their intent in writing.)
 - B. Highest total credits earned prior to second semester of their senior year, excluding Driver’s Education.
 - C. Highest number of Advanced Placement credits earned prior to second semester of their senior year.

- D. Highest ACT composite score of test taken prior to second semester of their senior year.
- E. A lottery conducted by the Superintendent of Schools.

Legal reference:
Section 39.41, Wis. Stats.
HEA 9, Wis. Adm. Code

Cross reference:
Board Policy 5421 – Grading
Board Policy 5430 – Class Rank
Board Policy 5451.02 – Graduation Recognition
Board Policy 5454 – Nondiscrimination in the Administration of Scholarships and Awards
Guidance and Counseling

Adopted: 9/8/03
Revised: 9/8/03, 5/3/04, 10/8/07, 1/12/15; 3/12/15

The Port Washington-Saukville School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Director of Special Services, Port Washington-Saukville School District, 100 W. Monroe Street, Port Washington, WI 53074 - Duane.Woelfel@pwssd.k12.wi.us