



2025-2026 Class Ranking Inquiry and Recommendations

October 14, 2025

Smithtown Central School District



Charge of the Committee

- **Identify methods to further highlight our highest achieving students in order to make them more desirable to highly selective colleges and universities and develop recommendations for the BOE Policy Committee related to Policy #4741: Class Rankings.**



Recommended Changes without Policy Implications

- 1. Add Gold Cord with Distinction**
 - a. Existing Honor: Gold Cord for students with 4.0 Weighted GPA**
 - b. Added Honor: Gold Cord with Distinction for students with 4.4 Weighted GPA**



Recommended Changes without Policy Implications

1. **Transcript and School Profile**
 - a. **After 6 semesters, add details regarding:**
 - i. **Gold Cord or Gold Cord with Distinction Candidacy**
 - ii. **Explanation of Criteria**
 - iii. **Percentage of previous class that earned each distinction**
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Recommended Changes without Policy Implications

- 1. Honor Speaker**
 - a. At the end of seven semesters, the GPA for the top seniors will be calculated and all students who are eligible for either the Gold Cord or the Gold Cord with Distinction will vote to select an Honor Speaker from the list of names of those who are eligible for the Gold Cord with Distinction.**
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Recommended Changes without Policy Implications

1. **Graduation Attire**
 - a. **Utilize one cap and gown color for each school (Red for HSE, Blue for HSW)**
 - b. **Allow for additional school approved adornments**
 - i. **New cord to represent Gold Cord with Distinction**
 - ii. **Various Medals, District and State level honor societies and seals, military commitments etc.**
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Thank You!

