

Instruction

Grade Point Average/Grade Weighting/Class Ranking

A. Grade Point Average & Weighting

New Milford High School uses a letter grading system and a course “weighting system” for all courses offered in the curriculum. The basis of the system is developed on a 4.0 scale, where each letter grade has a corresponding numeric value. All courses are used to determine a student’s grade point average (GPA). In addition to the GPA, all students have a Weighted GPA (WGPA). Each course carries a different weight, depending on its difficulty and rigor. Courses with an Honors distinction carry a +0.83 weight and courses with an Advanced Placement distinction carry a weight of +1.33 from the 4.0 base weight. (See table below) “Advanced placement” means a program approved by the State Board of Education that provides college or university-level instruction as part of a course for which credit is earned at the high school level.

		Weight	+0.83	+1.33
		Academic	Honors	AP
A+	97-100	4.00	4.83	5.33
A	93 - 96	3.67	4.50	5.00
A-	90 - 92	3.33	4.17	4.67
B+	87 - 89	3.00	3.83	4.33
B	83 - 86	2.67	3.50	4.00
B-	80 - 82	2.33	3.17	3.67
C+	77 - 79	2.00	2.83	3.33
C	73 - 76	1.67	2.50	3.00
C-	70 - 72	1.33	2.17	2.67
D+	67 - 69	1.00	1.83	2.33
D	65 -66	0.67	1.50	2.00
F	Below 65	0.00	0.00	0.00

B. Class Ranking

Since courses differ in their levels of academic challenge, the weighted grade point average provides a more accurate representation of students’ academic achievement. The weighted system of grading does NOT affect honor roll calculations. It is used only for the purpose of calculating class rank.

Rank in class is computed at the end of the junior year.

- A. Class rank will not be released until the beginning of the senior year. Counselors will inform students of their “individual” rank during September of the senior year, solely for the purpose of applications to college. Grade point average (GPA) and Weighted Grade Point Average (WGPA) will be calculated each semester.

Students will be identified/clustered according to these percentiles: Top 5%, 10%, 20%, 30%, 40%, 50%, and Bottom 60%, beginning in the Junior year.

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B. Class Ranking (continued)

Students class rank for members of the graduating class and the determination of the Valedictorian and the Salutatorian will be based on courses taken through the seventh semester. Traditionally, the Valedictorian and Salutatorian speak at graduation. Other seniors in the top 5% of the graduating class may be invited to submit and deliver a speech for consideration at graduation. A committee of teachers and students will select the best speech for delivery at graduation. Speaking at graduation is considered a privilege bestowed by the school administration. The honor of speaking is contingent upon exemplary academic performance as well as exemplary record of social and disciplinary behavior.

Rank in Class – Transfer Students

Only course work completed at New Milford High School is utilized for ranking purposes. However, the work completed in another secondary school will be included on the New Milford High School transcript as part of the permanent record of the student.

A student must have completed a minimum of three semesters at New Milford High School, including all of the junior year, to receive an exact place in final class rank, unless approved by the Principal. (See exception below)

Exception

A New Milford High School student, spending a year abroad on an approved foreign exchange program, may be ranked with his/her class. To be ranked with their class, participating students would enter into an agreement with the subject department chairman. This agreement would include instructional objectives, activities and means of assessment. This agreement should be in the form of a contract signed by both parties prior to the student's departure for all exchange programs.

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NEW MILFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
New Milford, Connecticut