



LAGO VISTA HIGH SCHOOL

**STUDENT HANDBOOK
SUPPLEMENT
2009-2010**

CLASSWORK AND HOMEWORK

Extra help will be available to any student who needs it. The student who needs academic assistance should contact his/her teacher and arrange a time to meet.

CLASSWORK, HOMEWORK and SCHOOL RELATED ABSENCES

It is the **STUDENT'S** responsibility to get assignments from teachers **BEFORE missing class and make up daily work and tests AFTER an approved school-related absence (SRA).** Students should get assignments before they leave and turn it in when they return to class. **ONE CALENDAR MAKE-UP DAY will be allowed for each day of an absence.** This policy refers to daily work assignments and tests only. Work that is due on the day of an SRA should be turned in **BEFORE** the student leaves school for the SRA.

TESTS and ABSENCES

If a student is absent the day of a test, the student will be given the opportunity to make the test up for full credit. The student will take the test the next period the class meets. However, if there are extenuating circumstances acceptable to the teacher and the principal, then the teacher will arrange the time and date for the test to be administered.

If a student is absent prior to a pre-arranged test date, attends school on the test date, and all of the test materials should have been known to the student, then the student is expected to be prepared for the test and will take the test on the originally-scheduled test date.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Term papers, special reports and other major projects/papers, including tests and test materials assigned in advance by the teacher are due on the designated day. Late policy for make-up work does not apply for the final Special Project. A student will receive a zero if the student does not meet the **DEADLINE ESTABLISHED BY THE TEACHER** for turning in the Special Project. Any segments/portions of a "Special Project" that are to be counted as daily work in the Teacher's grade book should follow the "Make-up Policy" and "Late-work Policy" for daily work (homework, tests, quizzes, etc.).

HOMEWORK

The major purpose of homework assignments is to enrich classroom studies with projects and activities that encourage students to think and to connect learning to the real world. Meaningful homework assignments link teachers, students, and parents to improved instruction that leads to quality student performance.

The purpose of the homework assignment shall be clearly stated to the student as preparation, practice, extension, and/or creativity. Homework will include some mandatory assignments. Failure to turn in mandatory assignments may necessitate remedial activities such as mandatory tutorials.

If a student does not turn in homework on time or if the homework is of such poor quality as determined by the teacher and the homework causes the student to fall below a 70 average or the student has an average of less than 70, then the student will be assigned lunch detentions. Homework will also include voluntary assignments meant to meet the needs of individual students or groups of students.

Parents will rarely be asked to play a formal instructional role in homework. Instead, they will be expected to create a home environment that facilitates completion of a quality product.

MAKE-UP DAILY WORK/TESTS

BOARD POLICY FDD (LOCAL)

Students shall be permitted to make up daily work and tests missed due to absences. One calendar day will be allowed for one day of an absence. It is the student's responsibility to get missed assignments the next day in attendance (not the next day in that class) and make up the work. For example, if a student is absent on Monday then it is the students' responsibility to get the missed assignments from his/her teachers on Tuesday and submit the completed assignments for his/her missed classes on Wednesday.

LATE WORK POLICY for REGULAR CLASSES

The first day an assignment (homework included) is due it will be evaluated at 100% of its value. If a student misses a class, but is in school that day, the assignments for the classes missed are due that day.

A late assignment will be evaluated at 80% of its original value on the second school day. The assignment will be evaluated at 50% of its original value on the third school day. **DAILY ASSIGNMENTS and/or HOMEWORK THAT IS THREE SCHOOL DAYS LATE OR MORE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED and WILL BE RECORDED AS A ZERO.**

TRUANCY

Students will receive a zero in each grade taken while student was truant. "Each grade" includes homework, class work, tests, nine weeks tests, final projects, semester exams, and any and all other teacher-assigned work.

ACADEMIC REMOVAL from PRE-AP/AP CLASSES

If a student falls below 75% at the conclusion of the first semester grading period the student shall be removed from that Pre-AP class and placed in a regular class in the same content area.

INCOMPLETES

A student who receives an incomplete for a nine weeks grade (last day of the nine weeks) or semester grade (last day of semester exams) must make up the incomplete work by the fifth school day following the last day of the nine weeks or semester exams at 3:25 P.M. If the student does not make up the incomplete, then the student will be ineligible for UIL and any and all other extracurricular activities. (Note: The student must meet all other UIL requirements to be eligible).

All incomplete nine-week and semester grades will be converted to a 50 on the fifth school day at 4:00 P.M. after the last day of the grading period, or in case of the second semester the incomplete will be converted to a 50 seven school days after the last day of the grading period. The only exception is if the absence practice (one school day for each absence) allows for additional days.

RE-TEACH/ RE-TEST POLICY (Grading Procedures)

Students are given the opportunity to receive additional instruction if the student earns a failing grade (below 70%) on a daily assignment and/or test. Students who fail a daily assignment or test have the opportunity to complete a mandatory tutorial session and then redo the assignment or test. The resulting grade will be an average of the two grades.

In the event that 50% of the students fail a test, the material will be retaught in class, a make-up assessment will be provided during class, and the higher grade will also be recorded.

PROGRESS REPORTS

Lago Vista High School will mail progress reports home to parents approximately every three weeks. These progress reports will show a student's grades in each of their classes. Students who have grade averages of less than 70 are considered failing. For students who are failing a class at a three-week mark, a more detailed report from individual teachers will be mailed home in addition to the progress report. A teacher may send a progress report or contact the parent at any time if the teacher deems it appropriate.

TUTORIALS

Tutorials will be provided to meet the needs of the student population during the homeroom block each day. If further assistance is needed, students can arrange before and after school tutorials with individual teachers. Freshman may be provided extra support through the LVHS Freshman Mentor Program.

REPORT CARDS

BOARD POLICY EIA

Report cards are to be taken by the student to the parent/guardian each reporting period (as designated on the school calendar). Report cards are to be signed by the student's parent/guardian and returned to their homeroom teachers within one calendar week of receipt. Teacher comments may be noted on student report cards. Teachers will contact parents/guardians when students fail to make a 70 on nine weeks or semester grades.

HONOR ROLL

The District shall have the following honor rolls at the High School level:

All A Honor Roll - Students must be taking at least four classes and have a weighted grade point average of 4.0 or above in all classes.

A & B Honor Roll - Students must have a weighted grade point average of 3.75 or above, and grades not lower than 3.0 in 2 classes and a 4.0 in all other classes. **Note:** Pass/Fail and Dual Credit classes do not count toward Honor Rolls.

TRANSFER STUDENTS and LVHS CREDITS for GRADUATION

Transferred to LVHS as a:	Credit requirements for LVHS Graduation
Freshman*	28
Sophomore*	28
Junior*	28
Senior*	The number of credits required from the school from which the student entered as a freshmen but no less than 24 credits.
*As defined by the school from which the student transferred.	

GRADES AND GRADING SYSTEM

The school year is divided into two semesters of two nine weeks each. The cards show numerical academic grades as follows:

Excellent	90 - 100	A
Good	80 - 89	B
Average	75 - 79	C
Below Average	70 - 74	D
Failing	69 and below	F

The actual numerical grade for semester exams will be used for computing the semester average and will be recorded (100 to zero) on the report card.

The classroom practice of curving grades for teacher-made tests is not allowed.

Students transferring into Lago Vista ISD with letter grades will have assigned to them the following numerical values.

A+ = 98	B+ = 88	C+ = 79	D+ = 74	F = 69
A = 95	B = 85	C = 77	D = 72	
A- = 92	B- = 82	C- = 75	D- = 70	

A minimum of nine grades per subject (excluding homework assignments) is recommended during each nine-week period. Project grades will be factored into the daily average.

Daily grades will be based on written or observed class participation and performance.

Nine weeks tests are required (9-12) the first and third nine weeks of each school year. Teachers have the option to give nine weeks tests at the end of the second and fourth nine weeks. (Note: See formula and legend for clarification.)

The following will be used to derive nine weeks averages:

60% major tests including the 9 weeks exam

30% Daily Work/Quizzes

10% Homework

The following will be used to derive semester averages:

Semester Exam Exempted

The two 9 weeks' grades in the semester are averaged with equal weight to determine the semester average: (50% + 50% = 100%)

Semester Exam Taken

The two 9 weeks' grades in the semester are each worth (40% + 40%) and the semester exam is worth 20%: (40% + 40% + 20% = 100%)

The actual numerical grade for semester exams will be used for computing the semester average and will be recorded (100 to zero) on the report card. However, the lowest cumulative grade for a nine weeks or semester grade that can be recorded is a 50.

Teachers may only administer a nine-week exam or semester exam on the scheduled date at the scheduled time.

Nine weeks and Semester Examination will NOT be administered early.

Nine Weeks and Semester Exam Schedule

FIRST NINE WEEKS

Tuesday	October 20, 2009	Periods 4 and 5
Wednesday	October 21, 2009	Periods 9 and 10
Thursday	October 22, 2009	Periods 1 and 2
Friday	October 23, 2009	Periods 6 and 7

SECOND NINE WEEKS OPTIONAL

FIRST SEMESTER (Grades 9-12)

DURING REGULAR CLASS PERIODS

Tuesday	January 12, 2010	Periods 4 and 5
Wednesday	January 13, 2010	Periods 9 and 10
Thursday	January 14, 2010	Periods 1 and 2
Friday	January 15, 2010	Periods 6 and 7

THIRD NINE WEEKS

Monday	March 29, 2010	Periods 6 and 7
Tuesday	March 30, 2010	Periods 1 and 2
Wednesday	March 31, 2010	Periods 9 and 10
Thursday	April 1, 2010	Periods 4 and 5

SECOND SEMESTER (Grades 9-12)

DURING REGULAR CLASS PERIODS

Tuesday	June 1, 2010	Periods 4 and 5
Wednesday	June 2, 2010	Periods 9 and 10
Thursday	June 3, 2010	Periods 1 and 2 Early Release 12:15
Friday	June 4, 2010	Periods 6 and 7 Early Release 12:15

FOURTH NINE WEEKS OPTIONAL

TAKS Success Exemption:

Please see page 20 for complete details.

CREDITS TO GRADUATE

IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STUDENT TO ENSURE THAT HE/SHE HAS THE REQUIRED CREDITS TO GRADUATE. PLEASE MAKE AN APPOINTMENT WITH THE COUNSELOR WITH ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING CREDITS.

EXIT LEVEL TAKS TESTS

Diplomas must be withheld from those students who have not demonstrated satisfactory performance sections of the exit level assessment instrument (Note: This may not apply to some students in special education who may be exempt).

If a student fails to demonstrate satisfactory performance TAKS, the student will be required to take remedial programs/classes and retest each time the assessment instrument is administered until satisfactory performance is demonstrated.

HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

All students entering the 9th grade are required to enroll in the Recommended High School Program or Advanced/Distinguish Achievement Program. Permission to enroll in the Minimum Graduation Program will be granted only if a written agreement is reached among the student, the student's parent or person standing in parental relation, and the counselor or appropriate administrator. [See policy EIF (LEGAL)]

In order for a student to take courses under the Minimum Program:

- Must be at least 16 years of age
- Must have 2 credits each in ELA, Math, Science, and Social Studies courses that are required for graduation
- Student has failed grade 9 one or more times

RECOMMENDED HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM

Discipline	Requirements
English Language	Four credits: Consisting of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English I • English II • English III • English IV Or Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), or college courses may substitute.
Mathematics	Three credits: Must consist of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Algebra I • Geometry • Algebra II Or Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), or college courses may substitute.
Science	Three credits: Selected from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biology I and II • Chemistry I and II • Physics I and II • IPC Or Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), or college courses may substitute.
Social Studies	Three and one-half credits: Consisting of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World Geography Studies • United States History • World History Studies • United States Government (1/2) Or Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), or college courses may substitute.
Economics with emphasis on the free enterprise system	One-half credit
Languages Other Than English	Two credits of the same language

RECOMMENDED HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM	
Discipline	Requirements
Fine Arts	One credit: (Speech may not substitute.) Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), or college courses may substitute.
Physical Education	One and one-half credits: To include one-half credit in Foundations of Personal Fitness
Technology Applications	One credit Selected from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computer Science I • Computer Science II • Business Computer Applications I • Business Computer Applications II • Business Computer Programming I • Business Computer Programming II • Computer Applications • Microcomputer Applications • Business Information Processing • Computer Mathematics • Industrial Technology Computer Applications Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), or College courses may substitute.
Speech	One-half credit selected from <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Speech Communication • Public Speaking • Debate Oral Interpretation
Program Credits Excluding Electives	20 ½
Additional Components	Three and one-half credits in Option I Three and one-half credits in Option II Three and one-half credits in Option III
Total Program and Elective Credits	24
LVISD Electives	4
Total Credits Needed for Graduation	28

Tech-Prep Program: Students completing a Texas Education Agency approved Tech-Prep Program would meet the criteria for the **Recommended Program** as long as the program meets the English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Foreign Language, Health, Fine Arts, and Computing Proficiencies and provides the equivalence of a 24 credit program.

DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

Distinguished Achievement High School Program	
Discipline	Distinguished Achievement Program
English Language Arts	<p>Four credits: Consisting of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English I • English II • English III • English IV. <p>Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB) or college courses may substitute.</p>
Mathematics	<p>Three credits: Must consist of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Algebra I • Algebra II • Geometry
Science	<p>Three credits: Selected from</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biology I and II • Chemistry I and II • Physics I and II <p>Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), or college Courses may substitute.</p>
Social Studies	<p>Three and one-half credits consisting of:</p> <p>World Geography World History Studies U.S. History U.S. Government (½ credit)</p> <p>Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), or college courses may substitute.</p>
Economics with emphasis on the free enterprise system	One-half credit
Languages Other Than English	<p>Three credits in the same language.</p> <p>Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), or college courses may substitute.</p>

Distinguished Achievement High School Program	
Discipline	Distinguished Achievement Program
Physical Education	One and one-half credits to include one-half credit in Foundations of Personal Fitness.
Health Education	One - half credit
Technology Applications	One credit Selected from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BCIS Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), or College courses may substitute.
Fine Arts	One credit (Speech may not substitute.) Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), or College courses may substitute.
Speech	One-half credit selected from Communication Applications
Program Credits Excluding Electives	21 ½
Advanced Measures*	Two and one-half credits in: Option I Option II Option III
Total Program and Elective Credits	24
LVISD Elective Credits	4
Total Credits Needed for Graduation	28

***ADVANCED MEASURES**

Standards for Approval of Requirements

- The measures must focus on demonstrated student performance at the college or professional level.
- Student performance on advanced measures must be assessed through an external review process.

Requirements

- A student must achieve any combination of four of the following:

Original Research/Project:

- Judged by a panel of professionals in the field that is the focus of the project; or
- Conducted under the direction of mentor(s) and reported to an appropriate audience; and
- Related to the required curriculum set forth in 19 TAC 74.1 (relating to Essential Knowledge and Skills).
- May not be used for more than two of the four advanced measures.

Test Data

- A score of three or above on The College Board Advanced Placement Examination;
- A score of four or above on an International Baccalaureate examination;
- A score on the PSAT that qualifies the student for recognition as a Commended Scholar or higher by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation; as part of the national Hispanic Scholar Program of The College Board; or as part of the National Achievement Scholarship Program for Outstanding Negro Students of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. The PSAT score may count as only one advanced measure regardless of the number of honors received by the student.

College Courses

- A grade of 3.0 or higher on courses that count for college credit, including tech prep programs.

Graduation Requirements for the Incoming Freshman Class of 2007-08 and Thereafter

Recommended High School Plan

English-4 credits No changes	Mathematics-4 credits	Science-4 credits	Social Studies-4 credits No changes
English I-IV	Algebra, Geometry, Algebra II, and one additional mathematics credit**	Biology, Integrated Physics/Chemistry*, Chemistry or Physics, and one additional science credit*	World Geography, World History, U.S. History, Government/ Economics (.5 each)

*IPC must be completed prior to the final or 4th year of science in high school. IPC phased out in 2012-2013

** Math Models cannot be taken after Algebra II

Distinguished Achievement Plan

English-4 credits No changes	Mathematics-4 credits	Science-4 credits	Social Studies-4 credits No changes
English I-IV	Algebra, Geometry, Algebra II, and one additional advanced mathematics credit**	Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and one additional science credit*	World Geography, World History, U.S. History, Government/ Economics (.5 each)

*IPC will not satisfy the science graduation credit for the Distinguished Achievement Plan. No phase out.

** Math Models will not satisfy the mathematics credit for the Distinguished Achievement Plan.

ADMISSION

The parent/guardian of a student who wants to enroll in the District should contact the counselor at Lago Vista High School. LVISD does not accept transfers.

COURSE INFORMATION

Students should expect an assigned elective to appear on a schedule when classes in a requested elective become overcrowded. Some students may be assigned to a study hall.

All students must take at least three classes daily for a minimum of 4 hours of instruction (Local Policy adopted 2000).

REGISTRATION

Students who did not register during pre-registration may register during the summer prior to the first day of school. Please call the office (267-8300) to set an appointment with the counselor.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

Students may not make course changes without parental approval. Changes will be made only if the course is (1) suitable for the student, (2) available, and (3) there is room for the student. **No schedule changes may be made without the principal's approval. No changes will be made into core academic courses after the second week of school.**

PRIORITY DROP POLICY:

First Two Weeks of a Semester:

During the first two weeks of the semester, requests to drop a course will be handled through the counselor's office and **must have parent and administrative approval**. All requests must start with a Drop/Add form. During this time, a student may be transferred to another (different) course depending on availability and the student's schedule. **No changes will be made in core academic courses after the second week of school.**

Third Week:

During the third week, requests to drop a course will be handled through the principal's office. A recommendation from the teacher, the effect on the graduation plan, and the student's potential for success will be considered in honoring the request. During this time, a student may be transferred to another section of the same course depending on availability and the student's schedule, with the grade earned in the dropped course being transferred. A student may also be placed in a study hall or assigned as a teacher/office aide for the remainder of the semester, in which case the grade earned in the dropped course will be dropped from the student's transcript.

Fourth Week:

Beginning with the fourth week, a student dropping a course will receive the drop-grade earned to that point and will be assigned to a study hall for the remainder of the semester. **If a student received a drop-F, he/she is ineligible for participation in extracurricular activities until the next scheduled opportunity to regain eligibility (must include at least one 3 week grade check period).**

WITHDRAWALS

All withdrawals must start in the principal's office. When all books have been checked in and obligations met, the withdrawal will be approved and earned credits transferred. No records or credits will be transferred to another school nor transcripts sent to any college until all records are clear.

AWARD OF CREDIT

The award of credit for a course affirms that a student has satisfactorily met state and local academic and attendance requirements. Credit may be awarded if the student has demonstrated achievement by meeting the standard requirements of the course, including demonstrated proficiency in the subject matter, regardless of the time the student received instruction in the course or the grade level at which proficiency was attained.

CLASSIFICATION OF STUDENTS

BOARD POLICY EIE (LEGAL)

The following requirements will be used for determining a student's classification:

Freshman.....	0 - 6.5 credits
Sophomore	7 - 13.5 credits
Junior.....	14 - 20.5 credits
Senior	21 credits & above
Graduation.....	28 appropriate credits

SUMMER, CORRESPONDENCE AND COLLEGE COURSES

BOARD POLICY EEJB (L)

Students must make a written request and receive prior approval from the principal before taking dual credit college courses, correspondence or night school courses for credit. All students in grades 9-12 may take correspondence courses. **Grades earned in dual credit college courses, college courses, correspondence courses, summer school and night school shall not be used in computing class rankings.**

CREDIT BY EXAMINATION

WITH PRIOR INSTRUCTION

A student who has received prior instruction in a course or subject but failed the course or subject with a grade of no less than 60 may be permitted by the District to earn credit by passing an examination on the essential knowledge and skills defined for the course or subject. To receive credit, a student must score at least 70 on the examination. The attendance review committee may also allow a student with excessive absences to receive credit for a course by passing an examination. A student may not use this examination to regain eligibility to participate in extracurricular activities.

WITHOUT PRIOR INSTRUCTION

A student will be permitted to take an examination to advance to a higher-grade level (at the elementary level) or to earn credit for an academic course (at the secondary level) for which the student has no prior instruction. Please contact the counselor for dates and times.

A student planning to take an examination for acceleration (or the student's parent) must register with the principal no later than 30 days prior to the scheduled testing date. The District will not honor a request by a parent to administer, on some other date, a test purchased by the parent from a State Board-approved university.

Students must score 90 or above to receive credit for the course. If a student fails twice the CBE without prior instruction, the student must wait until the next regularly-scheduled CBE testing date to take the examination.

Students who have more than the maximum number of absences in the course allowed by law may not use credit by examination to receive credit for the particular course or to be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities.

A student in any grade may take an examination for acceleration to advance one grade level or to gain credit for a course he or she has not formally taken for credit. For additional information, contact the High School Counselor. Test dates will be announced. A student must register 30 days prior to scheduled test date.

CHEATING/PLAGIARISM/ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Plagiarism is the use of another person's original ideas or writing as one's own without giving credit to the true author. Plagiarism will be considered cheating and the student will be subject to academic disciplinary action that shall include loss of credit for the work in question. Teachers who have reason to believe a student has cheated on or has prepared to cheat (e.g. student prior to testing is in possession of a "crib sheet," answer(s) to the test, or the test itself) shall administer an academic consequence of a zero for that assignment, test (including but not limited to nine weeks and semester tests/examinations) or any other teacher-assigned material. The student will NOT be eligible for reteaching, rework, or retesting. Students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty will be subject to disciplinary penalties.

MODIFIED COURSES

For the purposes of determining class rank for honor positions, courses that have been modified by the student's ARD committee as to the required content of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) and reflected in the student's IEP shall not earn the same number of grade points as regular classes. They shall earn Modified Content Credit. However, courses modified as to methodology shall earn the same number of grade points assigned to regular classes.

Grade Point Average/Class Ranking

Weighted categories are assigned to high school courses. This category is determined by the demands or expectations of a particular class. Some classes receive weighted grade points. The following classification will be in place for the 2009-2010 school year.

<u>NUMERICAL GRADE</u>	<u>AP/Pre-AP</u>	<u>REGULAR</u>	<u>MODIFIED CONTENT</u>
100	6.0	5.0	4.0
99	5.9	4.9	3.9
98	5.8	4.8	3.8
97	5.7	4.7	3.7
96	5.6	4.6	3.6
95	5.5	4.5	3.5
94	5.4	4.4	3.4
93	5.3	4.3	3.3
92	5.2	4.2	3.2
91	5.1	4.1	3.1
90	5.0	4.0	3.0
89	4.9	3.9	2.9
88	4.8	3.8	2.8
87	4.7	3.7	2.7
86	4.6	3.6	2.6
85	4.5	3.5	2.5
84	4.4	3.4	2.4
83	4.3	3.3	2.3
82	4.2	3.2	2.2
81	4.1	3.1	2.1
80	4.0	3.0	2.0
79	3.9	2.9	1.9
78	3.8	2.8	1.8
77	3.7	2.7	1.7
76	3.6	2.6	1.6
75	3.5	2.5	1.5
74	3.4	2.4	1.4
73	3.3	2.3	1.3
72	3.2	2.2	1.2
71	3.1	2.1	1.1
70	3.0	2.0	1.0

Grade Point Average

The student's GPA is weighted and is calculated using semester grades in grades 9-12. Algebra I and Spanish I courses completed in middle school count in the student's GPA. The student's GPA is cumulative and all subjects taken shall be used in computing GPA except band, physical education, athletics, grades received for service as an office aide, and "pass-fail" or local credit courses such as Academic Lab. Correspondence courses, credit by exam, advanced placement tests, and summer school courses shall not be considered in determining GPA. Dual credit courses/college courses are not included in a student's GPA nor are courses from non-accredited or foreign schools.

VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN

GRADUATE RANKING PROCEDURE

The valedictorian and salutatorian shall be the students in the senior class obtaining the highest grade point averages respectively, utilizing the procedures for calculating rank in class. They shall have been in continuous enrollment at Lago Vista High School since the first day of the second semester of their junior year. In addition, students being considered for valedictory and salutatory honors shall meet the following criteria:

1. A minimum of three years of mathematics, one year of which must be upper division. Upper division is defined as above Algebra One.
2. A minimum of three years of science.

VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN RANKING:

Student's weighted grade point averages shall be ranked to determine valedictorian and salutatorian. In case of a tie for valedictorian or salutatorian, the following criteria will be used to distinguish the valedictorian and the salutatorian.

1. The student with the most AP courses shall be considered first
2. However, if a tie still remains, the student with the highest numerical grade average of all AP courses taken shall be the valedictorian (in case of tie for first place) and salutatorian (in case of tie for second place).

In cases of a tie in weighted grade averages among the top ranking students, the following methods shall be used to determine who shall be recognized as valedictorian or salutatorian:

1. Computing the weighted grade average to a sufficient number of decimal places until the tie is broken; or
2. Comparing the students' scores on college entrance tests (SAT first), if all the tying students have taken the same tests.

Should a tie develop for valedictorian, co-valedictorians shall be declared, and no salutatorian shall be recognized. Should a tie develop for salutatorian, all those tying shall be recognized.

To qualify to give the valedictorian or salutatorian speech, a student shall not have engaged in any serious misconduct violation of the Student Code of Conduct, including but not limited to removal to DAEP, a three-day suspension, or expulsion during his or her last two semesters.

LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship committees from various community organizations, local businesses and individuals annually offer a number of scholarships to Lago Vista students to help defray the expenses of college or professional training. Any senior who is interested in applying for one of these must complete the scholarship application that will be given out in February. Students applying for local scholarships must have been enrolled from the beginning of their senior year.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) COURSES:

Honors credits from accredited school districts will be accepted equal to the number of honors credits available if the entering student had been a Lago Vista student when the honors credits being transferred were earned. LVISD honors credits shall be cumulative from year to year when calculating the number of transferred honors credits allowed. For example, if three credits were available to LVISD freshman and two credits were available to LVISD sophomores during the years in question, a junior transferring in could transfer five honors credits.

Grades from college courses taken with the approval of the principal to earn credit toward graduation will not be included in averaging to determine the class rank.

Students shall complete a full semester of Pre-AP/AP when they enroll in the course. A try-out period is not offered. The Pre-AP or AP teacher may recommend that a student be removed from a Pre-AP or AP class if it is of the opinion of that teacher that it is in the student's best academic interest.

GRADING

A non-weighted average of not less than 75% at the semester must be maintained in order to remain in the class. If a student must remain in the class because of schedule conflicts, weighted credit will not be granted. However, a grade correction will be calculated based upon the student's presumed grade in a regular class.

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

Candidates for graduation shall not participate in commencement exercises or be awarded a high school diploma until the principal certifies the student has:

1. Met the requirements for the graduation (this includes successful mastery of the state TAAS/TAKS Exit Level Exam). (Note: Candidates whose work is incomplete will be given their diplomas only when it is determined that their work has been satisfactorily completed. Seniors who expect to graduate after taking summer school do not participate in the June graduation/commencement ceremony).
2. Met all attendance requirements
3. Completed all disciplinary consequences. It is important to note that a student who is assigned to DAEP at any time within the last 30 days of the regular school year may not participate in the June commencement ceremony.
4. Paid all financial obligations
5. Participated in at least one LVHS graduation practice

To qualify to give the valedictorian or salutatorian speech, a student shall not have engaged in any serious misconduct violation of the Student Code of Conduct, including but not limited to removal to DAEP, a three-day suspension, or expulsion during his or her last two semesters.

GRADUATION

Students are encouraged to meet on a regular basis with their counselor in preparing a graduation plan and checking on progress toward fulfilling the academic requirements for graduation. The ultimate responsibility for ensuring that all requirements are met rests with the student and his/her parents.

COLLEGE TESTING

- SAT
- ACT
- THEA or other approved alternative test
- Consult your high school counselor or college advisor for further information

VIKING LEARNING CENTER (VLC)

The Viking Learning Center (VLC) is for students seeking credit recovery. The curriculum is self-taught and teacher assisted. It is provided by American Preparatory Institute.

CHEERLEADING

Cheerleading applications are available and tryouts are open to all qualifying students enrolled in LVISD grades 8-11 in the spring of each year. Tryouts will be held each spring to select cheerleaders for the upcoming school year. Information packets that include the necessary information and permission slips will be available prior to cheerleader tryouts. The packet will have to be completed, signed and returned by the designated time or a student will not be allowed to tryout.

Throughout the tryout process, students will accumulate points based on several different criteria. Please refer to the cheerleading tryout packet for specific details.

The Junior Varsity cheerleading squad will be made up of freshmen and the squad will have no more than eight members. The Varsity cheerleading squad will be made up of sophomores, juniors, and seniors and will have no more than ten members.

COLLEGE DAYS

In order to miss school for a college visit, **the principal must give prior approval.**

Juniors and seniors are allowed two college days per year. Students are required to provide a signed permission note from a parent/guardian at least one school day prior to the visit. Students will need to provide verification of the college visit to the attendance clerk upon returning to school.

TEST EXEMPTION

At the conclusion of each semester, a student in grades 9 – 12 who does not have more than two absences (excused or unexcused, but excluding school related absences) may request exemption from either two mid-term or two final examinations. The two allowable absences are absences for each class. **Excessive tardies will count against exemptions. Three tardies in a semester will equal one absence in the calculation for test exemptions.** The student must have an 80 or above **semester** average in the class he/she is seeking a test exemption. Also, if the student qualifies for test exemptions in the first AND second semester the student may not choose to be exempt from the same classes / tests (e.g., if the student qualified for test exemptions the first semester and chose not to take the chemistry and calculus semester examinations, and the same student qualified for test exemptions the second semester, the student would have to choose tests other than chemistry and calculus).

If a student is absent the day or class period of the class(es) in which he/she has chosen a test exemption, the student will receive an INCOMPLETE for that class and will be required to take the final / mid-term examination according to the time frame allotted in our absence policy. The student **MUST** attend school the day and times in which the student qualified for a test exemption.

TAKS Success Exemption for Spring Finals:

For students who met the standard on all TAKS tests:

- A student must have an 80 average in each class
- No more than 2 absences in each class
- May choose to exempt **all finals** in which the above criteria is met

For students who did not meet the standard on all TAKS tests:

- A student must have an 80 average
- No more than 2 absences
- May choose to exempt **2 finals** and the classes exempted cannot be the same ones exempted in the 1st semester

Parent's Response Regarding Release of Student Information to Military Recruiters and Institutions of Higher Education

Federal law requires that the district release to military recruiters and institutions of higher education, upon request, the name, address, and phone number of secondary school students enrolled in the district, unless the parent or eligible student directs the district not to release information to these types of requestors without prior written consent. [See **Release of Student Information to Military Recruiters and Institutions of Higher Education** of the *LVISD Student Handbook and Code of Conduct*.]

Parent: Please complete the following only if you do not want your child's information released to a military recruiter or an institution of higher education without your prior consent.

I, parent of _____ (*student's name*), request that the district **not** release my child's name, address, and telephone number to a military recruiter or institutions of higher education upon their request without my prior written consent.

Parent signature _____

Date _____

Please sign and date this page, remove it from the campus supplement, and return it to the school office.

SIGN AND RETURN