

Latin Laude Honor System Quick Facts

- Pueblo City Schools will officially transition to the Latin Laude Honor System with the class of 2022
- The Latin Laude Honor System shall be determined by a 4.0 GPA tiered chart as follows:
 - Summa Cum Laude (“with highest honor”) – students earning a 3.90 GPA or higher
 - Magna Cum Laude (“with great honor”) – students earning a 3.70-3.89 GPA
 - Cum Laude (“with honor”) – students earning a 3.50-3.69 GPA
- Students will still have the opportunity to earn Honors Designation in addition to the tiered Laude Honor System.
 - This is to recognize those who have excelled in honors/advanced, AP, IB, and/or CE curricula.
 - Honors Designations would be added based on the number of Laude honor points a student earns through the end of their senior year.
 - With “Distinction” – 9 or more honor points
 - With “Honors” – 6-8.5 honor points
 - With “Merit” – 3-5.5 honor points
- Student course selection should have rigor, but should also include non-honors courses that match their interests and post-secondary goals as indicated in their ICAP.
- Graduation ceremonies will recognize all students graduating with a Laude Honor
- Student commencement speaker(s) will still be selected. Schools are currently discussing a consistent method of selection

Frequently Asked Questions

Students should compete to prepare them for “real life.” Is this an ‘every kids gets a trophy for participating’ thing?

- No. The system does allow for a more equitable distribution of recognition, however, the Latin Laude Honor System only awards students based on merit and performance.
- Students may also achieve additional levels of distinction by taking honors and advanced placement classes.

If the GPA is based on a 4.0 chart, how can students still be recognized for completing honors or AP courses?

- Students will still have the opportunity to earn Honors Distinction through Laude honor points.
- These points would be provided for their performance in honors/advanced, AP, IB, and or CE curricula.
- The honors designations would be added to their diploma upon graduation in stages of Distinction, Honors, or Merit.

What about the top and most outstanding students, will they still have the chance to address their peers at graduation?

- Yes. Each school will develop consistent strategies to select student commencement speaker(s)

Why did the district decide to do away with the valedictorian system?

- Most colleges and universities do not recognize weighted grade point averages anymore.
- They do, however, recognize the Latin Laude Honor System which is what is commonly used at most colleges and universities.

Will classes still be as rigorous?

- Students can still select rigorous and advanced classes, as well as classes that are aligned with their interests and post-secondary goals.
- The advantage of this is that the current structure may require advanced students to take courses that may not appeal to them just so that they can earn the extra points. Now, students can align their studies with goals in their ICAP and still earn the extra points to earn the highest level of designation they are capable of.