Handout 3_Packet Feedback

Questions/Comments from Packet: Parent Responses

- Didn’t realize area public schools have this system
- Interesting variations of system in packet
- Wording was the same from several schools
- What are our statistics?
  - What’s our highest attainable GPA?
  - What is our ACT distribution?
  - Can we look at recent graduating classes and put them in a similar system?
- ACT should not be counted in laude system
  - Throw out the ACT score
  - Students should not be penalized in HS graduation system for a low ACT
- ACT should be counted in laude system
- Unless you take weighted courses, you are out of the running for distinction in current system
- We need to define exactly what the purpose is for our graduation system
- Some factored in citizenship
  - We already have recognition/organizations for this
- Combination of laude/ranking system is intriguing
- Our class sizes are very small. By using the class rank system we create an environment which only allows 4-5 students a year to denote on college/university and scholarship applications that they’re in the top 10% of their class.
- I really like the ACT component being added in to combine with the student’s overall GPA as well as the “good citizenship” and activity participation components. Academic honors are important but so are other aspects of the holistic student.

Questions/Comments from Packet: Faculty Responses

- All have their merit, emphasize AP and Dual Credit more, discourage fine arts
- More focused on educational value and experience, not just the GPA
- Colleges may consider applicants more individually when rank is not a factor
- Concern about including ACT score—we have had phenomenal students who don’t test well
- Disagree with including HS activities, but maybe A+ and attendance
- Citizenship is a very subjective measure
- No need to include EOC scores since they’re part of the class grade
- Would like to see a system that recognizes a student who has earned A’s and A-‘s their entire career...take the number away from the college and make them look at the student
- Against watering down Valedictorian and Salutatorian, but do like the idea of using both rank and laude
- Valedictorian and Salutatorian still hold significance in America...something you tell your kids
- Don’t want to lose all emphasis on weighted classes—they are important
- Don’t necessarily see the point in weighting AP and Dual Credit—getting the college credit should be reward enough, then get recognition for taking rigorous coursework
- Include a college preparatory requirement to achieve laude status, maybe include the honors designation for # semesters AP/DC (maybe replace weighting with this)
- A lot of colleges won’t take the weighted GPA—the college will translate it to a 4.0 scale (unweight everything), so we do our students a disservice
- With honors rewards students who take rigorous courses without punishing students who take classes that are preparing them for their future
- If we’re going to reward GPA, let’s focus on grades