

NEW SHOREHAM SCHOOL DISTRICT
BLOCK ISLAND SCHOOL

Academic achievement is fostered to a large extent by a school department's willingness to award students who reach high levels of achievement. The Block Island School recognizes and encourages academic excellence in a number of ways. Two methods of recognizing our students' academic excellence are: Honor Roll and Valedictorian/ Salutatorian.

To that end, the New Shoreham School Committee directs that academic achievement be publicly recognized in the School District within the framework provided below.

Weighted courses will be as follows:

- The numerical grade in an honors level course shall be multiplied by a factor of 1.07 to determine the weighted numerical grade point average.
- The numerical grade in an advanced placement course shall be multiplied by a factor of 1.1 to determine the weighted numerical grade point average.

HONOR ROLL

Recognition will be provided to students who achieve Highest Honors, High Honors, and Honors on their quarterly grade report. Effort and conduct grading, although not used as a criteria for honor roll eligibility, will be noted on the report card and should reflect the student's effort and conduct in an objective and consistent manner. The attached rubrics for effort and conduct were developed to address this task. Grades earned with a parent or tutor will not be used in Grade Point Average (GPA) calculations.

- Highest Honors: High school students will earn highest honors with a GPA of 90 percent or higher, with no grades below a 90 in any course.
- High Honors: High school students will earn high honors with a GPA of 90 percent or higher, with no grades below an 85 in any course.
- Honors: High school students will earn honors with a GPA of 85 percent with no grade below an 80 in any course.

VALEDICTORIAN/SALUTATORIAN ELIGIBILITY:

In order for a student to be eligible for valedictorian or salutatorian honors a student must meet the following criteria:

- The student must be enrolled at the Block Island School for at least 12 of the 16 academic quarters during grades 9-12.
- The student must be enrolled at the Block Island School from the first day of the third quarter of the 12th grade through graduation.

- During any breaks of enrollment the student must complete all course work through an accredited school or program such as (but not limited to) Keystone, University of Missouri or Semester at Sea.
- Grades earned in accredited programs or schools are to be officially submitted in numerical form to the Block Island School upon the students' return to the Block Island School.
- Any student who submits coursework or grade(s) from coursework not earned through an accredited school or program will not be eligible for consideration for valedictorian/salutatorian.
- In the case of a home schooled student (a student whose parents have taken full responsibility to provide the student's education) grades must be submitted directly to the school from the accredited institution if a distance learning program has been utilized. In no case shall a student's grade submitted by a parent or tutor be considered eligible for any GPA computation.

COMPUTATION OF GPA FOR VALEDICTORIAN/SALUTATORIAN:

- Eighth grade coursework is not considered part of the official high school transcript and is not used in computation of valedictorian/salutatorian.
- All grades earned from accredited high school courses or programs taken from ninth grade through the end of the third quarter of the 12th grade will be used to calculate the GPA. All courses are weighted according to the number of meeting times per week, honors or AP status, and the duration of the course.
- Valedictorian/Salutatorian honors shall be determined at the end of the third quarter of the 12th grade. The senior class member with the highest GPA will be named valedictorian, provided a minimum GPA of 85 percent is achieved.
- The individual with the second highest GPA will be named salutatorian, provided a minimum GPA of 85 percent is achieved.
- The guidance counselor in consultation with the principal shall determine eligibility of grades submitted by private schools.

EFFORT RUBRIC

4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Student participation in class is consistent and exemplary. ▫ Student completes assignments comprehensively and on time. ▫ Strong evidence that student applies constructive feedback from teacher. ▫ Student consistently takes responsibility for learning; seeks extra help if needed, etc.
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Student always participates at some level regardless of the learning activity. ▫ Student assignment is usually complete, comprehensive, and seldom late. ▫ Student usually applies constructive feedback from the teacher. ▫ Student sometimes takes responsibility for learning; seeks extra help without prompting.
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Student's class participation varies depending upon learning activity. ▫ Student seldom turns assignments in on time and quality varies. ▫ Student sometimes responds and applies constructive feedback from teacher. ▫ Student occasionally takes responsibility for learning; seeks extra help only after encouragement from teacher.
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ There is little or no evidence of class participation. ▫ Student's assignments are seldom handed in and, if they are, are not comprehensive. ▫ Student does not respond to constructive feedback. ▫ Student does not take responsibility for learning; fails to seek extra help or respond to its suggestions by teacher.

CONDUCT RUBRIC

4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Student is always respectful of teacher and environment, and encourages peers. ▫ Student always observes school and classroom rules. ▫ Student is consistently on time for class and demonstrates readiness to learn.
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Student is respectful of teacher, environment, and peers. ▫ Student usually observes school and classroom rules. ▫ Student is usually on time for class and ready to learn.
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Student is tolerant of teacher and/or environment and peers. ▫ Student is resistant to school or classroom rules. ▫ Student is sometimes late for class and readiness to learn may vary.
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ Student is not respectful of teacher and/or environment and peers. ▫ Student does not observe school or classroom rules. ▫ Student is frequently late to class and/or demonstrates little readiness to learn.