The board strongly encourages programs and activities that recognize and reward excellence in student academic and athletic achievement, character, and leadership. A variety of programs, such as honor rolls, honor societies, and awards programs, may be implemented to recognize outstanding student achievement. The board encourages school recognition ceremonies and community recognition ceremonies to honor scholarship and distinguished character and leadership abilities. Administrators and teachers are responsible for developing and implementing various means of recognizing student achievement.

A. HONOR ROLLS

Each school will have an honor roll and a principal's list and will recognize students in grades three through 12 using the following criteria.

1. Grades Three through Five

To qualify for the honor roll, students must have all A's in academic subjects (English/language arts, social studies, math, and science) and all S's in non-academic subjects. To qualify for the principal's list, students must have all B's or higher in academic subjects and all S's in non-academic subjects.

2. Grades Six through Eight

Students must have A's in all subjects to qualify for the honor roll. Students must have B's or higher in all subjects to quality for the principal's list.

3. High School

Each high school may choose to use either letter grades or grade point averages to determine eligibility for the honor roll and the principal's list. The method to be used will be decided by the school and communicated to students and parents through the student-parent handbook and other publications. The method may not be changed during the school year.

If the school uses letter grades, students must earn all A's for the grading period to qualify for the honor roll. Students must earn all B's or higher for the grading period to qualify for the principal's list.

If the school uses grade point averages, to qualify for the honor roll, students must earn a grade point average of at least 4.0 and have no letter grade lower than B in an AP course or lower than A in any other course for the grading period. To qualify for the principal's list, students must earn a grade point average of at least 3.0 and have no letter grade lower than C in an AP course or lower than B in any other course for the grading period.

Policy Code: 3440

B. HONOR SOCIETIES

The school system has affiliated with national honor societies and follows the rules and regulations set forth by those organizations. School administrators shall encourage the establishment and maintenance in the schools of such organizations that recognize outstanding academic achievement. The principal shall appoint and approve sponsors for such organizations.

C. AWARDS

Middle and high schools are encouraged to establish carefully planned Awards Day programs to give special recognition to students in many areas, including athletics, academics, extracurricular activities, citizenship, etc. The aim of Awards Day programs should be to recognize as many students as possible without diluting the significance of the awards.

D. SCHOLARSHIPS

Counselors should maintain current scholarship information. Scholarships which would aid students in pursuing post-secondary training should be actively solicited from community individuals, organizations, and businesses.

Legal References: G.S. 115C-36, -47

Cross References: Goals and Objectives of the Educational Program (policy 3000), Class Rankings (policy 3450)

Adopted: June 27, 2016