

# Neillsville High School – Laude System Information

## How Do I Calculate My Laude Score?

My total honors points: \_\_\_\_\_

My cumulative G.P.A.: \_\_\_\_\_

My Total Laude Score:  $\frac{\text{Honor Pts.}}{\text{Cum. GPA}} \times \text{Cum. GPA} = \text{Your Laude Score}$

## Laude Honors Courses & Values

### Laude Distinctions:

- Summa Cum Laude (With Highest Honor/Distinction), Laude Score of 50 or greater
- Magna Cum Laude (With Great Honor/Distinction), Laude Score ranging from 32 – 49.95
- Cum Laude (With Honor/Distinction), Laude Score ranging from 16 – 31.5

### **Courses and Laude values: .5**

1. College & Career Spanish (also would include any year 3 or above of the same foreign language)
2. Advanced Art Class with an approved plan that results in a final exhibit with a presentation
3. Individual 1st place at State Solo and Ensemble competition for choir or band
4. Individual 1st place at State National History Day competition
5. Individual 1st place at State Forensics competition
6. Individual 1st place at State FCCLA competition
7. Individual 1st place at State VICA competition
8. Individual 1st place at State FFA competition
9. Transcribed Course through a Technical College

### **Courses and Laude values: 1.0**

1. Capstone
2. Algebra II
3. Trigonometry/Pre-Calculus
4. Statistics
5. Calculus
6. Advance Science (not independent study)
7. Anatomy
8. Physics
9. Chemistry

### **Courses and Laude values: 1.5**

1. College Courses
2. AP Courses

### NOTE:

Laude points are earned by semester for a passing grade in an approved course or activity.

Laude points can be earned through 2nd semester of senior year.

The cumulative GPA at the end of 1st semester senior year will be used to determine the student's final laude status.

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				<b>G.</b>	<b>P.</b>	<b>A.</b>					
		4	3.9	3.8	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.3	3.2	
20	80	78	76	74	72	70	68	66	64		<b>Summa</b>
19.5	78	76.05	74.1	72.15	70.2	68.25	66.3	64.35	62.4		<b>Cum</b>
19	76	74.1	72.2	70.3	68.4	66.5	64.6	62.7	60.8		<b>Laude</b>
18.5	74	72.15	70.3	68.45	66.6	64.75	62.9	61.05	59.2		<b>50 or more</b>
18	72	70.2	68.4	66.6	64.8	63	61.2	59.4	57.6		
17.5	70	68.25	66.5	64.75	63	61.25	59.5	57.75	56		
17	68	66.3	64.6	62.9	61.2	59.5	57.8	56.1	54.4		
16.5	66	64.35	62.7	61.05	59.4	57.75	56.1	54.45	52.8		
16	64	62.4	60.8	59.2	57.6	56	54.4	52.8	51.2		
15.5	62	60.45	58.9	57.35	55.8	54.25	52.7	51.15	49.6		<b>Magna</b>
15	60	58.5	57	55.5	54	52.5	51	49.5	48		<b>Cum</b>
14.5	58	56.55	55.1	53.65	52.2	50.75	49.3	47.85	46.4		<b>Laude</b>
14	56	54.6	53.2	51.8	50.4	49	47.6	46.2	44.8		<b>49.99-32</b>
<b>H</b>	13.5	54	52.65	51.3	49.95	48.6	47.25	45.9	44.55	43.2	
<b>O</b>	13	52	50.7	49.4	48.1	46.8	45.5	44.2	42.9	41.6	
<b>N</b>	12.5	50	48.75	47.5	46.25	45	43.75	42.5	41.25	40	
<b>O</b>	12	48	46.8	45.6	44.4	43.2	42	40.8	39.6	38.4	
<b>R</b>	11.5	46	44.85	43.7	42.55	41.4	40.25	39.1	37.95	36.8	
	11	44	42.9	41.8	40.7	39.6	38.5	37.4	36.3	35.2	
<b>P</b>	10.5	42	40.95	39.9	38.85	37.8	36.75	35.7	34.65	33.6	
<b>O</b>	10	40	39	38	37	36	35	34	33	32	
<b>I</b>	9.5	38	37.05	36.1	35.15	34.2	33.25	32.3	31.35	30.4	<b>Cum</b>
<b>N</b>	9	36	35.1	34.2	33.3	32.4	31.5	30.6	29.7	28.8	<b>Laude</b>
<b>T</b>	8.5	34	33.15	32.2	31.45	30.6	29.75	28.9	28.05	27.2	<b>31.99-16</b>
<b>S</b>	8	32	31.2	30.4	29.6	28.8	28	27.2	26.4	25.6	
	7.5	30	29.25	28.5	27.75	27	26.25	25.5	24.75	24	
	7	28	27.3	26.6	25.9	25.2	24.5	23.8	23.1	22.4	
	6.5	26	25.35	24.7	24.05	23.4	22.75	22.1	21.45	20.8	
	6	24	23.4	22.8	22.2	21.6	21	20.4	19.8	19.2	
	5.5	22	21.45	20.9	20.35	19.8	19.25	18.7	18.15	17.6	
	5	20	19.5	19	18.5	18	17.5	17	16.5	16	
	4.5	18	17.55	17.1	16.65	16.2	15.75	15.3	14.85	14.4	
	4	16	15.6	15.2	14.8	14.4	14	13.6	13.2	12.8	
	3.5	14	13.65	13.3	12.95	12.6	12.25	11.9	11.55	11.2	
	3	12	11.7	11.4	11.1	10.8	10.5	10.2	9.9	9.6	
	2.5	10	9.75	9.5	9.25	9	8.75	8.5	8.25	8	
	2	8	7.8	7.6	7.4	7.2	7	6.8	6.6	6.4	
	1.5	6	5.85	5.7	5.55	5.4	5.25	5.1	4.95	4.8	
	1	4	3.9	3.8	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.3	3.2	
<p><b>Neillsville High School Laude Chart</b> - This chart will be reviewed every two years and revisions will be made when needed. If revisions are made to this chart and/or policy, the revisions would go into effect with the next incoming ninth grade class.</p>											

# Neillsville High School – Laude System Information

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What is the Laude System?**

The purpose of this grading and assessment system is to better recognize students for the rigor of their academic programming as well as their success in it. This system is a point based system that combines points earned in advanced level courses and the students' cumulative grade point average to give you a laude score. The laude score determines which laude rank a student receives at graduation.

### **What will the Laude System do at NHS and why change?**

The Laude System would replace the current grade point average and class rank system. Class rank is very misleading and fosters adverse academic decisions to be made that we believe is counterproductive to student learning and development. For example: avoidance of challenging/difficult courses that may impact GPA/class rank, excessive competition between peers, and a hesitation to take an intellectual and academic risk. The laude system would force college admissions departments to review the students' academic rigor, activities and accomplishments, and test scores. Ranking students is a poor statistic to use in public education.

### **I understand the Laude System will replace the GPA/class rank system, but what is the overall purpose of the Laude System?**

Our primary goal is to encourage students to take the most rigorous courses that they are comfortable taking knowing that they won't be adversely impacted for doing so. We believe that all students will benefit from a system that encourages them to stretch themselves academically and better prepare them for the next step after high school, whatever that may be. In addition, we believe this system will decrease unnecessary competition between classmates and increase their academic and intellectual options. The addition of the Laude System, and the concurrent elimination of the existing class rank system, we believe will have a positive impact on students.

### **How does a student qualify for Laude status?**

You must have a 3.2 cumulative G.P.A. or higher and have earned a Laude Score of at least 16 to earn a Laude Distinction. Any student with a cumulative GPA below 3.2 will not have honors points calculated toward a Laude Score.

### **When will the Laude System go into effect?**

The Laude System will begin with the graduating class of 2020.

### **What about the valedictorian and salutatorian designations?**

The School District of Neillsville will not recognize a valedictorian or salutatorian after the graduating class of 2019.

### **How will students be recognized at graduation?**

Students will receive a colored sash/cord that identifies their laude designation. Cum Laude (with honor) will wear white; Magna Cum Laude (with high honor) will wear green; Summa Cum Laude (with highest honor) will wear gold. (Colors are subject to change).

### **If class rank is not provided on college applications, will that hurt our students' chances to be accepted to college?**

No. Not reporting class rank forces college admissions to evaluate our graduates on a holistic level by putting a greater emphasis on rigor or coursework and corresponding grades in that coursework, ACT/SAT scores, letters of recommendation, etc. We believe it will be advantageous for our graduates.

# Neillsville High School – Laude System Information

## **How will the recipient of the Academic Excellence Scholarship be determined?**

The AES will be awarded to the graduating senior that has the highest cumulative GPA at the end of their seventh semester. To be eligible for the AES, a student must have attended at least four semesters at Neillsville High School, one of which must be their seventh semester.

## **What about other scholarships? Don't they use class rank to determine recipients?**

The school will inform those outside of the school that class rank will no longer be shared information and should be removed from the criteria for our students. Students will be able to indicate their Laude status and we will work with those local providers to make sure they understand this system of recognition.

## **Will there be any plan for evaluating the system to see if it is truly better than GPA class rank?**

Yes. This system will be evaluated every two years. If revisions are made to the matrix and/or associated board policies are made, the revisions would go into effect with the next incoming 9<sup>th</sup> grade class.

## **How will Graduation Speakers be decided?**

The Class President will do one speech, with one at large speaker coming from the pool of students that have earned Summa Cum Laude. This pool of students will be asked if they are interested in speaking and if they agree they will be placed on a ballot and voted on by the senior class and the HS Faculty.

## **Can I earn Honor Points for courses I completed at another school?**

Transfer students will receive honor points toward the Laude System for AP courses successfully completed at their previous school. Due to the varying nature of how honor classes are designated in other schools, transfer students will not be granted honor points for any courses other than AP.