



# Gates Chili High School Latin Honors System

NEW  
FOR  
2021-22

The Gates Chili Central School District challenges its students to maximize their potential with an increased focus on expanding students' academic and intellectual risks. The district seeks to do so by encouraging students to participate in rigorous coursework and seek career pathways to a bright future.

Beginning with the Gates Chili High School Class of 2025, students will have an opportunity to earn distinctions at graduation through a Latin honors system. Latin honor designation falls into three categories, each with its own minimum unweighted cumulative GPA requirement. These include:

Summa Cum Laude (with highest honor): GPA of 95.0-100

Magna Cum Laude (with great honor): GPA of 90.0-94.99

Cum Laude (with honor): GPA of 85.0-89.99

The Latin honors structure replaces the rank system that positioned students according to their weighted grade point average. With this system, Gates Chili HS aligns itself with college practices and also provides the opportunity to recognize more students for their many achievements.

## Frequently Asked Questions

How does this impact courses at the high school?

*High school courses will no longer be weighted.*

How does this impact valedictorian, salutatorian and the graduation ceremony?

*The system that previously determined valedictorian and salutatorian will no longer be in place. Graduation speakers will be chosen in a two-step process. Students who achieve summa cum laude status may apply to serve as one of two graduation keynote speakers. These applications will be reviewed by a panel comprised of the high school principal, senior class assistant principal, class advisors and two faculty members. The panel will recommend up to five students, who will be voted on by the senior class.*

How does this impact quarterly honor roll?

*Students are still eligible to earn honor roll or high honor roll, depending on their GPA each quarter.*

**For more information about the GCHS Latin Honors system,  
visit [gateschili.org/LatinHonors](https://gateschili.org/LatinHonors).**