

DE SOTO AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

461-Rule

TIE-BREAKING PROCEDURES

If a tie exists for the designation of valedictorian/salutatorian and designation of the academic scholar/alternate for purposes of the Wisconsin Academic Excellence Higher Education scholarship, the high school faculty shall use the following criteria in the order listed to break the tie: ***{NOTE: Do the following criteria really apply to designation of valedictorian/salutatorian? Note that a statement in item 1 of your policy indicates that "the other student(s) will be co-valedictorian(s)." If, in fact, for purposes of local designation of valedictorian/salutatorian, when students are tied for highest grade point average they are considered co-valedictorians, you should revise the previous statement to say something like: "When a tie exists for the designation of valedictorian/salutatorian, the students shall be designated as co-valedictorians. If a tie exists for the purpose of designating the academic scholar/alternate to receive the Wisconsin Academic Excellence Higher Education scholarship, the high school faculty shall use the following criteria in the order listed to break the tie:"***

1. If only one of the students commits to attending a university, technical college or participating private college within the state of Wisconsin, that student will be the District's academic excellence designee. The other student(s) will be the alternate scholarship designee(s). ***{NOTE: I replaced the reference to "co-valedictorian(s)" with "the alternate scholarship designee" for clarification since this step seems to specifically address the academic scholar designation. Refer to my comment in the introduction.}***
2. If more than one student commits to attending a university, technical college, or participating private college within the state of Wisconsin, the tie shall be broken by converting the recorded semester grades of the tied students to a 12-point scale as indicated in the following chart:

| <u>Semester</u><br><u>Grades</u> | <u>Point</u><br><u>Value</u> | <u>Semester</u><br><u>Grades</u> | <u>Point</u><br><u>Value</u> |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| A+                               | 12                           | C+                               | 6                            |
| A                                | 11                           | C                                | 5                            |
| A-                               | 10                           | C-                               | 4                            |
| B+                               | 9                            | D+                               | 3                            |
| B                                | 8                            | D                                | 2                            |
| B-                               | 7                            | D-                               | 1                            |
|                                  |                              | F                                | 0                            |

3. If the tie is not broken in step two, then the students' score on the Standardized College Entrance Exam will be utilized to determine who will receive the scholarship. For this criteria to be used, the tied students must have taken the same standardized entrance exam (American college Test - ACT or Scholastic aptitude Test - SAT). The ACT composite score or SAT total math and verbal scores will be used. If a student has taken the exam more than once, the highest composite score received, prior to the end of the seventh semester, will be used for tie-breaking purposes.
4. In the event there is still a tie after steps one through three, the Board of Education will review a standard scholarship application completed by each of the students involved and, by a simple majority vote of the Board members present, vote to break the tie. **{NOTE: You may wish to review this item with district legal counsel in light of provisions of section 39.41(1m)(d) of the statutes, "...the faculty of the high school shall select the applicable number of seniors for designation...as scholars and shall certify, in order of priority, any remaining seniors as alternates..."}**

APPROVED: June 3, 1996

REVISED:

**NOTE: These procedures were found in your district's current policy manual (code not visible - approved 6/3/96). I revised them for stylistic reasons, separating them from the policy, and as outlined above. (WASB - 11/06)**

