

AMMENDED GRADUATION RECOGNITION

After much research, and in line with what most colleges and an increasing number of high schools are doing to recognize outstanding academic achievement, Cathedral High School has decided to implement a new program that will replace the traditional Valedictorian/Salutatorian model.

Sophomores (2020), juniors (2019), and seniors (2018) will be grandfathered into the Valedictorian/Salutatorian process of Senior Recognition. In this process, the winners of these prestigious awards are determined by the administration. The criteria used to determine the respective winners are: grade point average, level of courses taken, longevity at Cathedral, and exemplary behavior in and out of the classroom. Based upon students' relative achievement in these areas, the valedictorians and salutatorians are chosen.

Starting with the Class of 2021 (this year's freshman class), Valedictorian/Salutatorian will no longer be recognized. Instead, we will recognize the top 15% of the class as indicated below:

- Highest academic recognition (top 5%) - "Summa Cum Laude"*
- Next highest academic recognition (next 5%) - "Magna Cum Laude"*
- Final recognition (next 5%) - "Cum Laude"*

Students earning these distinctions will be recognized at Commencement. Students from the "Summa Cum Laude" category may apply for the various speaking roles at Commencement.

To determine the students in each category, seventh-semester cumulative GPA's will be calculated. To be eligible for this academic recognition, a student must have attended Cathedral for at least five semesters at the time of graduation. Students will be able to take any level of required/elective class they choose, with the understanding that taking a non-honors class could decrease their chances of being recognized in the top 15%. The student also must have exhibited exemplary behavior in and out of the classroom.