

Talking Points:

Mr. Thompson's Membership Update highlights a matter that we would like to see reviewed. For background, PVS currently recognizes high school Scholar Athletes who have a 3.5 GPA or higher and who have a 3.5 event standard average in a minimum of 5 events. It's the GPA standard we would like revised.

From Mr. Thompson's report,

- in 2006-07, forty-one (41%) percent of the athletes in the PVS were Fairfax County residents. Yet, Fairfax Scholar Athletes only comprised 19.5% of those recognized by PVS.
- Last year, 38% of the PVS were comprised of Fairfax County athletes, but only 27% of the Scholar Athlete list attended Fairfax County schools.

I'm handing out a copy of a front page article from the January 3, 2009, Washington Post, which outlines what is causing this discrepancy. Fairfax County grades on a 6 point scale. Montgomery, Arlington, Falls Church, PG County and DC grade on a 10 point scale and give more weights for advanced courses than Fairfax does. Based on the PVS Scholar Athlete award's current guidelines, the Honors/AP swimmers in 10-point schools can be making half C's and half B's to receive Scholar Athlete recognition, but Fairfax, Prince William, Loudoun and Alexandria Honors swimmers need to make grades averaging B+ or above to qualify.

We would like to request PVS recognize that there is a disparity and adjust its Scholar Athlete rules to accommodate and equalize the educational requirements of the Award for a more equitable distribution throughout the LSC.

The following calculation tool could be reviewed as a possible way to compute applicants' grades to a consistent 10 point standard throughout the PVS.

	<u>Grade</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Honors/AP/Dual Enrollment/IB</u>
A-B+	(90-100)	4.0	5.0
B-C+	(80-89)	3.0	4.0
C-D+	(70-79)	2.0	3.0
D	(60-69)	1.0	2.0

Calculation tool:

of grades at A+, A, A- and B+: _____ x 4.0 = _____
of grades at B, B- and C+: _____ x 3.0 = _____
of grades at C, C- and D+: _____ x 2.0 = _____
of grades at D and D-: _____ x 1.0 = _____
of grades at F: _____ x 0 = _____
of Honors/Advanced Courses (AP/IB/Dual)+ _____

of Total credits: total _____ / _____ = _____
credit hours WGPA

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