



## GRAYSLAKE

Every Student, Every Day

# *Cum Laude Award*

In the pursuit of our mission, and following our important departure from sorting students using class rank, we are excited to announce a new system of recognition that honors all students who meet high expectations. Honored students excel in the areas of dedication, character, volunteerism, responsibility, pride, and excellence while earning a high G.P.A. Students recognized for this achievement at Senior Honors and Awards Night will receive a special demarcation to wear on graduation day. Students can also add their Cum Laude status to college or employment applications.

### District 127

#### Mission Statement:

We empower all learners to launch their futures through relevant, engaging, authentic learning.



### AWARD DESIGNATIONS AND INITIAL QUALIFICATIONS

**CUM LAUDE:** Initial qualifiers must have a seven semester GPA of at least 3.0 AND complete ONE class as described in the Excellence category.

**MAGNA CUM LAUDE:** Initial qualifiers must have a seven semester GPA of at least 3.75 AND complete THREE or more classes as described in the Excellence category.

**SUMMA CUM LAUDE:** Initial qualifiers must have a seven semester GPA of 4.25 and up AND complete FIVE or more classes as described in the Excellence category.

In addition to the above qualifying indicators, students must meet each of the requirements listed in the six areas described in this document to earn an award. All students are encouraged to keep track of their activities and leadership experiences, volunteer activities, and Advanced Placement enrollment starting freshman year. Activities and experiences can be tracked in the Cum Laude Portfolio Google folder shared with all students. All application materials will be reviewed and verified by District 127 staff upon submission of a Cum Laude application and portfolio submission. Students must submit their completed application, the link for which is found in the Cum Laude Google folder shared with students in their District 127 Google account, by February 1st of their senior year.

Please see the back of this form for details on each of the six required areas of achievement.

# CUM LAUDE AWARD CRITERION

To qualify for any level of Cum Laude award, students must meet the requirements below. Qualifying students must submit their completed application by February 1st of senior year. Students earning an award will be notified by spring break and invited to Senior Honors and Awards Night. Students who believe they should have been awarded an honor, but were not, may appeal using the form in the Cum Laude folder by April 15th.

## **DEDICATION\***

Students must show dedication to their studies by earning a minimum of 26 credit hours.

## **CHARACTER\***

Students should demonstrate good citizenship as evidenced by their discipline record. In addition to the consistent demonstration of “Knights Way” at North, and the “RAMS Way” at Central, an awarded student must have no suspensions or code violations during their tenure in District 127.

## **VOLUNTEERISM\***

Students must give back to their school and larger communities by serving a total of 50 community service hours to be tracked and later submitted by the student via the Google form. These hours may include both school sponsored and non-school sponsored activities.

## **RESPONSIBILITY\***

Students must demonstrate responsibility by having a cumulative rate of attendance of 95% attendance or higher.

## **EXCELLENCE\***

Students must complete with a “C” or better courses from the list below as required by the target award level. Cum Laude requires ONE from the list below, Magna requires at least THREE, and Summa requires at least FIVE.

- Advanced Placement Courses. Students may fulfill the Excellence category with as many or as few AP courses as they would like.
- Dual Credit Earth Science Honors (Central Only)
- PLTW Engineering Design and Development
- PLTW Civil Engineering and Architecture (beginning in 2018-2019)
- PLTW Introduction to Engineering
- PLTW Principles of Engineering
- Dual Credit Public Service Practicum

## **PRIDE\***

Students must earn five units of leadership experiences from the following list. Each item earns a student one unit. Students will be required to list all qualifying activities in the application.

- Active participation in one year of a club/activity(can be used more than once)
- Named to a leadership role in your club/sport(can be used more than once)
- One year serving as a student tutor(can be used more than once)
- Participation in one sports season(can be used more than once)
- Athletic council/SAALT(can be used more than once)
- Athletic trainer or team manager(can use more than once)
- Earn Seal of Biliteracy (can use only once)
- Earn personal recognition in art or music
- Thespian member(can use only once)
- Member of Art, Music, Language or other Honors Societies(can use one time only for each society)
- Community recognition for contributions(each recognition is one unit)
- Other experiences as approved by your counselor. If in doubt, include it!

\*District 127 reserves the right to give special consideration to students whose extenuating circumstances prevented them from meeting one more of the requirements.

\* Students who violate one or more of the criterion above prior to graduation may be stripped of their Cum Laude status. Updated 6/2017