

I am providing a written testimony as a proponent of HB 368 which would allow districts to develop their own policies regarding how they will weigh CCP courses. Due to many factors, school districts should be able to create their own policies when weighting CCP courses.

One factor to consider when applying grade weights to courses is how rigorous the course is and the presentation of the course materials. We have students that are taking courses from multiple post-secondary institutions, and course rigor is not the same for the courses. Not only are students taking courses from multiple institutions, students are taking courses in different modalities. Some students are taking courses online, in person at the post-secondary institution, and students take courses in our high school that are taught by our teachers. While we are looking at courses being taught at different institutions, the way the course is taught, and we are trying to compare this to Advanced Placement courses that are taught in our high school. Under the current situation, we are saying a Public Speaking class taken online is as rigorous as an Advanced Placement English and Composition course.

A second factor to consider is the impact it has on valedictorian and salutatorian races in the senior class. Students can take multiple courses in each weighted content area to raise their grade point average (GPA) as opposed challenging themselves academically by taking Advanced Placement courses. In our district, we have a current senior that has earned an associate's degree as a junior in high school and she is attempting to graduate high school with a college Bachelor's Degree. Due to the number of CCP courses she has taken, her GPA is well over 4.0.

In summary, due to one model does not fit all and many factors, it is best to let the local districts develop our own policies regarding how CCP courses should be weighted.