

# Class XII formula leaves city schools with mixed feelings

## Split On Ratio, Some Say Current Scores Should've More Weightage

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**Gurgaon:** The evaluation yardstick to calculate the crucial Class XII board results has evoked mixed reactions from leading schools in the city.

A majority of schools has expressed reservations about the strategy submitted by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) to the Supreme Court, although they have pledged to follow the guidelines issued by the board.

"The criteria are of course clear and flexible. Including Class X assessments as part of the criteria, however, will not be in favour of the students as the subjects, structure, and pedagogical approaches between Class X and Class XI are very different," said Neena Kaul, director, Heritage Xperiential Learning Schools.

Schools said they were hoping that internal assessments would be the standard, not scores in lower classes, as there's no set pattern of students' performances. They argued that giving only 40% weightage to Class XII exams and 30% each to classes XI and X could be disadvantageous for a section of students.

"We understand that the board has done its best to come up with an objective formula to assess the students at

**“Larger weightage to Class 12 would have been more acceptable to students. But we welcome the decision and will implement it — ARPITA ACHARYA | PRINCIPAL OF BLUE BELLS PUBLIC SCHOOL**



**“This is the best strategy that could have been devised at present. The formula is well-thought and the yardsticks are fair — ADITI MISHRA | PRINCIPAL OF DELHI PUBLIC SCHOOL**



**“Coming up with a formula was never an easy task. More weightage to Class 12 would have been a lot more equitable — RASHMI MALLIK | PRINCIPAL OF SALWAN PUBLIC SCHOOL**



**“CBSE has done justice to everyone. The strategy takes into account both bright students who perform well and the slow learners — ARTI CHOPRA | PRINCIPAL OF AMITY INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL**



a time when exams could not be conducted, and we stand by the decision. However, giving more weightage to classes X and XI has students concerned. A larger weightage to Class XII would have been more acceptable to the students. Nonetheless, we welcome the decision and will implement it," said Arpita Acharya, principal of Blue Bells Public School.

The task of finding a formula acceptable to all was never going to be an easy one. While the discussions were still on, academics were suggesting that basing results on past performances could create a disparity and cause disadvantage to some students. Giving only 40%

weightage to Class XII somewhat undermines the performance of students throughout the year in various extensive internal assessments, schools said.

"There were apprehensions and concerns about the evaluation formula and the board had to take an objective stand. I believe a little more weightage to Class XII would have been a lot more equitable," said Salwan Public School principal Rashmi Mallik.

"It's a very commonly observed pattern that a lot of students tend to become a lot more serious in their board year. That's why basing results on past performance could upset a few students as

they'll find it disadvantageous," she added.

A few schools, however, have found the decision fair and just. Aside from keeping it objective by considering the limitations of internal assessments in a year when academics suffered unprecedented shocks, the flexibility provided in terms of marks moderation is a balancing act, they said.

"This is the best strategy that could have been devised in such uncertain times. The 30:30:40 formula is well-thought and the yardsticks chosen by the board are fair. Schools can choose the best of three subjects in Class X. Moreover, moderation of marks has also been provisioned to iron out the few disparities that may arise. Students have been also given the choice to appear for the exams when the situation normalises," said Aditi Mishra, principal of Delhi Public School.

"CBSE has done justice to everyone. Taking the best of three subjects of Class X and scores of Class XII assessments will help the aggregate of slow learners, while factoring in performance of class X, XI and XII will recognize the diligent efforts of bright students who perform well consistently," said Amity International School principal Arti Chopra.