



PEEKSKILL CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Dr. Cassandra Hyacinthe
Principal

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January, 2015

Dear PHS Parents and Guardians:

I wish you and your family a Happy and Healthy 2015! The PHS Winter Concert was the highlight of our first week back. Despite the most frigid temperatures this winter, on Wednesday, January 7th, an impressive audience attended this rousing event. Mixed and Selected Chorus, Concert Band and Jazz Ensemble students were led by Mr. Larry Del Casale, Choral Director and Mr. John Hahn, Instrumental Music Director, respectively. The lively performances were perfect for warming our spirits and lifting the winter blues. Special guest appearances included PHS alumnus, Charlie Dinota PHS'11, Tony Gorruso, trumpet soloist, and Kirk Ehrenreich, piano accompanist, Franklyn Vasquez, PKMS Band Director, and Crystal Hernandez, PCSD Music Lead Teacher. Thanks for all your support!

As we move into the second semester, I urge you to continue to monitor and encourage our students to maintain 100% effort and dedication to successfully complete the second marking period. In the next three weeks, students will take midterms (week of 1/20/15) and **January Regents** (1/26-1/29/15.) It is crucial that students continue to attend daily **Call Back** (2:11-2:45 PM) to receive extra help and the two remaining **Saturday Regents Prep** sessions (1/17, 1/24/15—9:00-12:00 PM).

When temperatures are below freezing, students will not be allowed to leave campus during the lunch periods. Students who have outstanding lunch balances should settle their accounts as soon as possible. **PHS Drivers Education** program will begin next month. Interested students must be 16 years old and have a valid New York State Learner's Permit. The cost of the 16 week program is \$480 dollars. Two installment payments must be made prior to the Wednesday, February 4, 2015 orientation session. An informational flyer and application is available in the main office.

Important Dates:

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| ✓ Friday, January 16, 2015 | Professional Learning Academy—1/2 day for students |
| ✓ Monday, January 19, 2015 | Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday—no school |
| ✓ Monday, January 26-29, 2015 | January Regents (notification letters sent to participating students) Morning testing: 8:00 AM, Afternoon testing 12:00 PM |
| ✓ Friday, January 30, 2015 | End of the 2 nd marking period, regular school day resumes |

Peace,
Dr. Cassandra Hyacinthe
PHS Principal

“I have the audacity to believe that peoples everywhere can have three meals a day for their bodies, education and culture for their minds, and dignity, equality, and freedom for their spirits. I believe that what self-centered men have torn down, other-centered men can build up.” Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.