



## **Peekskill City School District**

*Our mission is to educate and empower all students to strive for excellence as life-long learners who embrace diversity and are contributing members of a global society.*

**Dr. Jenna Ferris, Interim Principal**

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Dear Graduating Seniors, Parents and Guardians:

The conclusion of the 2021-2022 school year is fast approaching. I would like to take a moment to share with you some of the key events that will be occurring at Peekskill High School. In addition, I would like to reaffirm some of our expectations in regard to the successful completion of these events and the school year. Please take the opportunity to familiarize yourselves with important information regarding our procedures for the various events listed below, as well as our expectations for students during the last three months of school.

**Senior Prom:** The senior prom will be held on **Thursday, June 2, 2022** at *The View on the Hudson in Piermont, NY*. The prom starts at 6:30 p.m. and ends at 10:30 p.m. **Students are required to take the charter bus to the prom. The buses will be leaving from the Riverfront in Peekskill at 5:00 p.m.** Students and guests must wear the wristband they received, and non-PHS guests must present a picture ID to board the bus. Bus assignments and wristbands will be given out after school in the *cafeteria on Tuesday, May 31 from 3:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.* The consumption or possession of illegal drugs and/or intoxicating beverages at the prom, even if a participant is of legal drinking age, is strictly prohibited. If a student appears to be under the influence, parents will be notified and disciplinary measures will be taken. If a student or guest appears to be under the influence of any substance, prior to getting on the bus to the prom venue, they will **NOT** be permitted to attend the event. *Parents will be contacted and asked to accompany their child home for the evening; parents and students will not be reimbursed. Additional prom guidelines, and contracts, will be presented at the Mandatory Student Prom Meeting on May 25, 2022. Prom contracts must be signed by both students and parents and returned by Tuesday, May 31, 2022.*

**Senior Award Night:** Senior Award Night is scheduled for **Thursday, June 23rd**; it will be held at **Peekskill High School at 6:30 p.m.** If your child has received an award/scholarship, you will receive an invitation by mail with more details. Additional information will be provided.

### **Graduation**

Graduation will be held on **Friday, June 24, 2022** at 7:00 p.m. on Torpy Field. *The rain date will be Saturday, June 25, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.* The ceremony will last approximately one and half hours. Seating will begin at 6:00 p.m. and we ask all guests to be seated by 6:45 p.m. **If you have not entered Torpy Field by 6:45 p.m., your ticket may be forfeited. The gates will close promptly at 6:45 p.m.** and will not be reopened until **AFTER** the graduates have processed. **Students are to arrive at 6:00 p.m. and report to the side of the Administration building.**

**Graduation Rehearsal:** Graduation rehearsals are mandatory for all graduates. Rehearsals will take place on **Wednesday, June 22nd** at 10 a.m. at Torpy Field and **Thursday, June 23rd** at 10 a.m. at Torpy Field. *Attendance is mandatory at both rehearsals and students who are absent may not be able to join the graduation ceremony on Friday, June 24, 2022.*

**Ticket Information:** Tickets will be given to students during graduation rehearsal **ONLY**. Each student will receive four (4) tickets to graduation. **ALL guests attending the graduation will be required to present a ticket in order to gain entry, this includes children as well.**

**Handicapped Seating:** Should you require handicapped seating accommodations please call Ms. Clark at (914) 737-0201 or email her at [jlark@peekskillschools.org](mailto:jlark@peekskillschools.org). It is very important that we know ahead of time if there will be any guests with wheelchairs or walkers, so we can have the appropriate accommodations. *Please be advised the handicapped section can accommodate only one (1) additional guest to sit with the wheelchair guest.* Any additional guests will be seated in general seating. **Please note wheelchair guests and their companions are required to have a ticket.**

**Caps and Gowns:** Caps and Gowns will be distributed during graduation rehearsal. If any student has not ordered a cap and gown, they will be available to purchase during graduation rehearsal. **A cap and gown is required to participate in graduation.**

**Appropriate Dress/Conduct:** Commencement ceremonies are one of the highlights of the year. Exemplary conduct and proper dress befitting this occasion are expected. We are encouraging students to wear flat shoes as they will be walking on the turf field. Note that thin/stiletto heels will NOT be permitted (this includes guests as well) as these heels will cause damage to our new turf field. Please speak with your child about making good attire choices for this event.

**Guest Guidelines:** **Each guest is required to have a ticket for entry onto Torpy Field.** Guests will not be allowed to stand in the aisles or in the back of the field. All guests must be in a seat at the start of the ceremony. ***Guests are asked to remain seated during the entire event and will not be permitted into the aisles to take photographs. A professional photographer will be at this event. These pictures will be available for students when they pick up their diploma.*** Thin/stiletto heels will NOT be permitted as these heels will cause damage to our new turf field. Security will be present and enforcing these guidelines. **Balloons, strollers, large bags, umbrellas, pets (excluding service animals) and noise makers WILL NOT be permitted.**

### **Important Dates to Remember**

<b>Event</b>	<b>Date</b>
AP Exams	May 2nd through May 13th
Honor Society Induction Ceremony	May 12th @ 6:30 - Auditorium
Mandatory Senior Prom Meeting	May 25, 2022 @ 1:15 p.m.- Auditorium
Prom wristbands and bus assignments	May 31st- 3:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the cafeteria
Final Exams	May 31st - June 10th

NYS Regents Exams	June 1st and June 15th through June 23rd
Senior Prom	June 2nd- busses leave @ 5:00 p.m. from Peekskill Riverfront
Senior Field Day/Pool Party	June 13th 9:00 a.m. Torpy Field (rain day June 14th)
Senior Breakfast	June 16th 10:00 a.m.- PHS Cafeteria
Senior Parade	June 16th 4:30 p.m. - Woodside Elementary School
Mandatory Graduation Rehearsal	June 22nd at 10:00 a.m. @ Torpy Field June 23rd at 10:00 a.m. @ Torpy Field
Senior Awards Night	June 23rd at 6:30 p.m. @ PHS
Graduation	June 24th at 7:00 p.m. @ Torpy Field -students report at 6:00 p.m. to the administration building (rain date June 25th)

Please remember that only students who have met all graduation requirements are permitted to participate in the graduation ceremony. The most common reasons for seniors not meeting graduation requirements are poor attendance, incomplete work and Regents Exam scores. Please encourage students to be in school every day and to remain focused on completing the work necessary in order to graduate. Additionally, if your student is required to take a regents exam for graduation, encourage them to attend Regents Prep courses. Additional details on Regents Prep will be provided. It is also important for students to remember all school rules remain in effect until the end of the school year. Behavior that disrupts the educational process at school may lead to suspension and/or denial of a student's privilege to attend any school activities including senior events.

It is imperative that students attend their entire regular class schedule through the last day of instruction. We want to ensure an environment exists at Peekskill High School that is most conducive to learning and free from unnecessary distractions. We have taken and will continue to take a firm stand in these matters and have always appreciated your support and cooperation.

Respectfully,

*Jenna Ferris*

Interim Principal