



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. David Mauricio
Superintendent of Schools

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June 12, 2020

Dear Peekskill Families,

On June 20, summer vacation will be upon us! I know this is not how many of us pictured the year would end, however I can say we have all made the best of the challenges we have faced over the past few months. I continue to be in awe of the hard work and dedication shown by our staff, and by the determination shown by our students and families. In the short time left of the academic year, let us all say thank you to each other for all that has been accomplished as we were "Peekskill Strong"!

Meet the Principal & Virtual Tours

Many students will be moving to new schools next year. Our building principals recently hosted virtual "Meet & Greet" and tours of their buildings for incoming students. If you missed these tours, you and your child should watch them on each school's website, or by clicking on the links below. Do you know someone who is looking for a school district to enroll their child? Why not recommend Peekskill Schools and invite them to watch the video to see what we can offer their child.

[Uriah Hill Elementary](#)

[Woodside Elementary](#)

[Oakside Elementary](#)

[Hillcrest Elementary](#)

[Peekskill Middle School](#)

[Peekskill High School](#)

Elementary Belongings Pick-Up/Student Drop-Off

Elementary students' belongings will be available for parent pick up Monday, June 15 through Thursday, June 18 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Woodside, Oakside and Hillcrest Schools. Thank you to our teacher's aides and staff for collecting each students' belongings. Parents must wear masks and remain in their cars while receiving items. If you are walking, you must wear a mask and observe social distancing guidelines. Staff will bring your child's belongings to your car or to you. Instruments must be returned this week as well at Oakside and Hillcrest Schools. Uriah Hill will return student's belongings during the Pre-Kindergarten graduation car parade ceremony on Tuesday, June 16. Uriah Hill families that are walking to the parade are required to wear masks and maintain social distancing to receive their child's belongings and graduation certificate. If you have any questions about picking up belongings, please contact your child's school and leave a message for the school principal.

Healthy Kids 2020 Summer Program Information

Healthy Kids will host a summer program for children ages 5-12 at Uriah Hill Elementary beginning on June 22. Please [click here](#) for a flyer with more information.

Class of 2020 Graduation Parade

I recently met with City leadership, including the Chief of Police, to discuss the idea of a Class of 2020 car parade. Due to the large number of cars participating (approximately 250), I proposed a route that would address the safety concerns shared and which avoids streets with heavy pedestrian traffic. Additionally, during our last parade we found that there were numerous streets with little to no community engagement. Therefore, I proposed a route that would help ensure safe passage and allow the community to line the streets in a socially distanced way while limiting participation gaps. This will truly be an exhilarating experience for our graduates and the parents / guardians driving them. We invite you all to join us on Friday, June 26 at 10:30 a.m. for this car parade celebrating the graduating Class of 2020! Please show our seniors your support by lining up on the street to cheer them on as they pass. Also, please remember to practice social distancing procedures and wear a mask. [Click here for a flyer](#) with a list of streets that will be included in the parade. The procession will begin at Woodside and end at Peekskill High School.

High School Graduation Update:

We considered an outdoor graduation when the Governor allowed a maximum of 150 people to assemble. This limited number would have required six graduation ceremonies at Depew Field. The field would not have allowed us to erect a tent as it would block the view of the graduates from the bleachers. Therefore, students would have been on the field in their caps and gowns for approximately one hour in direct sunlight or potentially in the rain. Instead we enhanced our plans to provide our students and their families with a ceremonial experience. We created a video to showcase the special plans for this exciting day! [Click here to watch](#) as District and PHS administrators walk you through our PHS graduation.



PHS Principal Rodney Arthur and Assistant Principal Dr. Jenna Ferris film a graduation walkthrough video to show families the exciting plans for the day.

Budget Vote and School Board Elections

Finally, this is my last opportunity to remind you that the Peekskill City School District's Budget and Board Election vote date has been extended until June 16 by the Governor. All ballots **MUST** be mailed and received by 5PM on June 16, so don't delay - make sure your voice is heard and mail your ballot today! For more information on the 2020-21 Budget and our school board candidates, [please click here](#) to visit our district website.

Sincerely,

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Dr. David Mauricio
Superintendent of Schools