



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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May 2, 2020

Dear Peekskill Families,

On May 1, Governor Cuomo announced that all New York State Schools will **remain closed for the remainder of the 2019-2020 academic year**. While we prepared for the possibility of this news over the past few weeks, we understand that there will be mixed emotions surrounding this decision.

While this decision is challenging to us all, we understand that it is based on the health and welfare of our communities. To the families affected by this decision, and especially our graduating Class of 2020, know that we share in the feelings of disappointment that have become our reality due to COVID-19. Please know that our District administration will continue to work on ways to honor our students' hard work and accomplishments in the coming weeks. This includes celebrating our senior class in relation to college and post-secondary Decision Day, graduation and other important milestones. We have begun to highlight our seniors' decisions virtually and invite you to visit our social media accounts to share in these students' exciting announcements. We will update our school community with additional details as plans for future events are finalized.

Student/Family Learning From Home Support Guide

As we prepare for this continued closure, we have assembled a single District-wide reference document to provide you with multiple resources to help with home schooling efforts and personal care. For more information on these subjects, please see this [PCSD Student/Family Support Guide for Learning from Home](#). We will continue to enhance our instruction and support for students.

August Regents Exams

The Board of Regents and NYS Education Department has now cancelled August Regents Exams in addition to the previously cancelled June Exams. Please be reminded that to qualify for the exemption, students must earn credit in the course of study by the end of the 2019-2020 school year. Students will only receive Regents Exam credit if they have met the standards for passing the course. It is important for students to complete their school work and participate in classes in order to receive course credit. Students who had planned to retake a Regents Exam in June or in August are also exempt from the exam requirement, provided the student successfully passed the course. For more information, please see the [FAQs created by the NYS Education Department](#).

Report Cards & Parent Portal

To help keep our staff safe, I am limiting the requirement for staff to enter our buildings, therefore we will not be mailing paper report cards. All student report cards are now available online via our Parent Portal. If you need to register for Parent Portal, or you need help accessing information on the site, please view our [Parent Portal information page here](#).

Census 2020

The US Census Bureau will soon be sending reminder postcards to households who have not yet completed the 2020 Census. You can respond to the Census online, by mail, or by phone. Most responses take less than ten minutes to complete and all information is **confidential**. This means **everyone** should be counted in the Census. It is important that every individual be counted to ensure that Peekskill receives the funding needed for local programs, services and our schools. If we do not receive an accurate count, the funds will go elsewhere. If you have not already, please respond to the Census today. Find more information on the 2020 Census here on the [City of Peekskill website](#).

We would like to thank our Peekskill PTO who will be making a generous donation to help our families' educational efforts. We would also like to honor our teachers, principals and food service workers all of whom have national recognition days in May. Thank you for all that you do for our children and families.

Enjoy your weekend and remember to stay safe by remaining at home, socially distancing yourself from others and by wearing a mask when you must go outside.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David Mauricio".

Dr. David Mauricio
Superintendent of Schools