



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 19, 2020

Dear Peekskill Families,

I hope this letter finds you well as we approach the final weeks of the school year. I am writing with important updates for our school community. I know that this time can be a challenge for students as the weather gets warmer. It can be more difficult as students are learning from home. I appreciate all that you and our staff are doing to help keep them engaged. We also understand that families have been impacted by health and other circumstances; therefore, we continue to offer our assistance in any way that we can to assist you and your children.

Fourth Quarter Grading

After input from students, teachers, and administrators, we want to share the grading procedure for high school and middle school students. These procedures outline the calculation of final averages and course credit for the 2019-2020 school year and include options for students. Grading procedures were developed in the best interest of our students' academic achievements and emotional well-being. These procedures provide flexibility for students while preserving the academic integrity of our programs and acknowledging the hard work and achievement of our students over the course of the entire school year. We encourage students and parents to discuss questions or concerns about academic progress with the classroom teachers or their building administrators. [Please click here to read more.](#)

Phase III Packets

Phase III Continued Learning packets will be available for students who are not using Google Classroom. Packets can be picked up at Uriah Hill Elementary School this week on Thursday, May 21, or next week, on Tuesday May 26 and Thursday, May 28. Pick up will be from 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Prom & Other Updates for the Class of 2020

Despite our best efforts and high hopes, we unfortunately will have to cancel the senior prom for this year due to the current public health crisis and the continuation of NY PAUSE in our Region. PHS is currently working on refunds for students that had submitted payments for the prom. If you have any questions regarding this, please contact senior class advisors Ms. Guardino or Ms. Yeagley. Also, Peekskill High School Principal Mr. Rodney Arthur will present to the Board of Education at their May 19 meeting and will discuss additional plans for celebrating the graduating class of 2020. Please tune into our District website to hear more on these important updates regarding Peekskill High School. We continue to work with Westchester County leadership to identify an allowable plan for graduation. More information will be forthcoming as soon as we have finalized our plan.

Learning From Home (A Parent Survey)

In an effort to gauge how our students are doing with distance learning, [we have created this brief survey for parents](#). Please take a few moments to share your important feedback.

Summer School / Summer Programs:

District leaders continue to prepare for summer programming in various formats. We will share information once we receive clear direction from the Governor's office.

Virtual School Transition Meet & Greets

Is your child starting a new school next year? Join our building Principals for virtual school tours and learn new information about each building! [Click here to submit questions in advance](#). Questions must be received by Friday, May 22. Sessions will be viewable on school website homepages. [Click here for a flyer with dates and times for each session](#).

Online Parent Guide

As a reminder, 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.

2020-21 Budget Vote and Board of Education Elections

In accordance with Executive Order No. 202.26, the Budget Vote and School Board Election will be held by absentee ballot only this year. Registered voters of our School District will receive absentee ballots by mail. All ballots MUST be returned by mail and received by our District Clerk by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, June 9 to be counted. Additionally, our District Administration Building will be open Tuesday, June 9, 2020 from 9 a.m.- 3 p.m. (one day only) for those residents wishing to drop off their ballot during this time. A Public Hearing on the proposed Budget will take place virtually on May 26 at 7 p.m. on our District website. Visit www.peakskillcsd.org for additional information on our Budget Vote and Board Elections.

PTO Meet the Candidate Forum

This year, there are three candidates running for two Board of Education seats. The Peekskill PTO will be hosting a live virtual forum on June 1 where residents can meet the candidates, learn about the issues, and submit questions. The discussion will be led by a forum moderator from The League of Women Voters via live stream from the Peekskill CSD website. If you would like to suggest a potential question for the candidates, please email: advocacy@peakskillpto.org.

2020 BOE Candidates:

Branwen MacDonald
Samuel North
Eileen Sullivan

Peekskill Staff Parade

On a final note, [I would like to share this uplifting video of our recent staff parade](#) through the City of Peekskill. It was wonderful to see so many smiling members of our school community come out and show their support for our staff. On behalf of our Board of Education, I wish you and your family the very best.

Sincerely,



Dr. David Mauricio
Superintendent of Schools