



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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July 17, 2020

Dear Peekskill Families:

I am writing to update you on our school reopening. This week, districts across New York State received several guidance documents in reference to the reentry (now known as reopening) of schools. We have linked these resources below for your reference. These documents, along with additional information on our Reopening Plans can be found on our District website under the "Parents" tab > [Reopening Planning for September 2020](#).

On Monday, July 13, the New York State Education Department (NYSED) presented the following reopening guidance to the NYS Board of Regents:

- [Recovering, Rebuilding, and Renewing: the Spirit of New York's Schools](#)

Also on Monday, July 13, the New York State Department of Health (DOH) released reopening guidance for NYS schools:

- [New York State Department of Health Interim Guidance for in-Person Instruction at Pre-K to Grade 12 Schools during the COVID19 Public Health Emergency](#)

On Thursday, July 16, the NYSED released their official reopening guidance:

- [RECOVERING, REBUILDING, AND RENEWING: THE SPIRIT OF NEW YORK'S SCHOOLS](#)

Our Peekskill administrative leaders have worked diligently to prepare, and will continue to review these documents and apply the recommended guidance to our PCSD Reopening Plans. On Tuesday, July 21, I, along with my Central Office team, will provide an update on our reopening planning to the Peekskill Board of Education at our Board meeting. I invite our school community to watch this update live on our District website (www.peekskillcsd.org) on July 21 at 7PM. An archived video of the meeting will be available shortly after on our District website under the Board of Education tab. Those wishing to submit questions/comments for this (or any BOE meeting), can [use this link](#). Your questions/comments will be shared during the public comment portion of the meeting.

Please also note that the District will send out a parent survey as well to gather feedback from PCSD families. This survey will be distributed after the Governor's decision on the reopening of schools scheduled to be announced the first week of August.

Peekskill will submit our Reopening Plan to the NYS Education Department by July 31. This plan will also be available on our District website. I ask our school community to remember that this plan is subject to modification as circumstances change and per the Governor's directives. We ask for your understanding and flexibility if we are required to adjust our course of action. I will continue to send updates as more information becomes available.

In closing, I want to thank our school community for their patience and understanding over the past few weeks as District leaders across the state grapple with unknowns and review the guidance provided to us by NYS leaders. We are fully aware of the variety of challenges ahead and remain committed to moving forward. As always, the health and safety of our students, staff and families remains paramount as we continue to plan for our students' academic success.

Please continue to do your part to remain healthy and safe this summer. Wash your hands frequently, social distance yourselves and wear a mask to help stop the spread of COVID-19.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "David Ma", followed by a horizontal line.

Dr. David Mauricio
Superintendent of Schools