

## Pearl River School District

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> Marco F. Pochintesta, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools

April 8, 2020

Dear Pearl River School Community,

I am writing to inform you that Governor Cuomo extended all school closures until April 29<sup>th</sup>. It is anticipated that he will reevaluate before that date to determine whether another extension is needed.

In addition, the New York State Education Department has cancelled all June 2020 Regents exams. As this impacts graduation requirements, further guidance was provided yesterday exempting students from Regents Exam requirements as follows:

The New York State Department of Education (NYSED) is making certain modifications to the assessment requirements that students must meet in order to earn high school diplomas, credentials, and endorsements. These modifications apply to all students enrolled in grades 7-12 during the 2019-20 school year who were intending to participate in one or more of the June 2020 Regents Examinations.

Students who during the June 2020 examination period would take one or more Regents Examinations shall be exempted from the requirements pertaining to passing such examinations in order to be issued a diploma. In order to qualify for the exemption, students must meet one of the following eligibility requirements:

- The student is currently enrolled in a course of study culminating in a Regents Examination and will have earned credit in such course of study by the end of the 2019-20 school year;
- The student is in grade 7, is enrolled in a course of study culminating in a Regents Examination and will have passed such course of study by the end of the 2019-20 school year;
- The student is currently enrolled in a course of study culminating in a Regents Examination and has failed to earn credit by the end of the school year. Such student returns for summer instruction to make up the failed course credit and is subsequently granted diploma credit in August 2020; or
- The student was previously enrolled in the course of study leading to an applicable Regents Examination, has achieved course credit, and has not yet passed the associated Regents Examination but was intending to take the test in June 2020 to achieve a passing score.

Additional information can be found at - <u>NYSED Guidance 2020 Regents Exams</u>

High School administration will also be preparing information for parents and students. We are happy that NYSED has made this decision as it will benefit the students during this unprecedented and difficult time.

I hope that all of our Pearl River families are well. We look forward to when we can welcome our students and staff back to their schools.

Sincerely,

Marco F. Pochentesta