April 13, 2020

Good afternoon Parents/ Guardians and Students. We have received guidance on regents exam exemptions and graduation requirements from the New York State Education Department. The following information is technical and important for students in grades 8 – 12. Please read carefully as the information may apply to each of you differently.

NYSED has canceled all June Regents Exams for 2020. They have issued some guidance for how to handle this situation, as outlined below:

- 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; or
- 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; or
- 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 and earn the 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 intended to take the test in June 2020 to achieve a passing score. In other words, students who have failed the Regents Exam for a course that they have passed will have been signed up for those Regents Exams in June 2020. Those exams will also qualify for exemption under this new guidance.

If your child is in a Regents course and earns a passing grade overall for the school year, they will be awarded Regents credit for that course. If they are enrolled, but will be earning a failing overall course grade in the course, they will need to go to summer school. If your child failed
the course in the past but passed the Regents when they were in the course, they will receive credit for the Regents if they intended to take it this June.

For Honors endorsements to either a Regents Diploma or a Regents with Advanced Designation Diploma, if your child achieves a calculated average of 90 or above (without rounding) of all examinations taken applicable to their diploma type, they will attain the honors endorsement on such diploma. Any examination exempted as a result of COVID-19 related cancellation of the June 2020 examinations shall not be included in such calculation. In the case of a mastery in mathematics and/or science endorsement, the student must achieve an 85 or above on two Regents Examinations in mathematics and/or science, in addition to any Regents Examination for which the student was exempted in that subject.

Pathway +1 Assessments, Safety Net options for students with disabilities, and CTE endorsements will all work the same way in that if your child is earning a passing overall grade at the end of the school year, they will be exempted from the particular state exam and be awarded credit. If students who are involved in the Pathway +1 programs, or are students with a disability and they are not passing at the safety net level, are earning a failing grade at the end of the school year, they will need to attend summer school and pass summer school. As of this writing, it appears that August Regents and other state assessments will be waived if the student passes summer school. Students in CTE programs who earn a failing grade at the end of the school year will not receive their CTE endorsement because as of this writing, there are no CTE summer school programs available for them to attend.

It’s extremely important that your child stay current with their daily school work in order to pass the course requirements.

If you have questions about either of the requirements above, please contact Mr. Witty at dwitty@cc.cnyric.org or Mr. Phetteplace at dphetteplace@cc.cnyric.org.

Be well,

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