



June 3, 2022

Dear East Islip Families,

The end of the 2021-2022 academic year is quickly approaching and so are Regents Exams. Our staff and students have worked diligently to meet the demands of this year's exams for successful results, and we are confident our students will do well.

As you know, New York State Regents Exams are required. It is expected that all students taking courses which culminate in an exam will be required to take such assessments. Unlike the last two years, there are no Regents Exam exemptions from the New York State Education Department ("NYSED") except for the US History and Government Regents Exam which was cancelled in late May (<http://www.nysed.gov/common/nysed/files/programs/state-assessment/cancellation-us-framework-regents-june-2022.pdf>). It is expected that students perform to the best of their abilities, but at a minimum earn a grade of a 65 to meet the graduation requirements. These Regents scores will be noted in your child's transcripts.

On May 16, 2022, NYSED approved a special appeals process for school years 2021-22 and 2022-23. NYSED will allow students to appeal exam scores of 50-64 if they have successfully completed the course with an overall course average that meets or exceeds the requisite passing mark of 65. (<http://www.nysed.gov/memo/curriculum-instruction/flexibility-use-2021-22-and-2022-23-regents-examination-scores-satisfy>) The appeal will be made by the building principal to the Superintendent of Schools for consideration.

However, you must be aware that it is vital to understand if a student fails to take the required Regents Exam, he/she will be ineligible to make an appeal. While we are confident that most of our students will score well above the failing threshold, a few students may be eligible for an appeal if needed. Prior to this special appeal, even if a student passed the class, they would have to retake the Regents Exam at some point before graduation. We want to use the appeals provision when it is in the best interest of students.

Lastly, the East Islip School District will be adopting a "hold harmless" practice for all students taking courses ending in a Regents Exam this academic year. A Regents' Exam grade will be calculated for final course average only if the Regents grade will help our students. Should further clarification be needed, your child's guidance counselor will be available to assist.

We thank you for your continued support and trust in our students and staff. Have a terrific remainder of the year!

Sincerely,

Mark Bernard
East Islip High School Principal

Sincerely,

William J. Brennen
East Islip Middle School Principal

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