



Mount Sinai Union Free School District

118 North Country Road
Mount Sinai, New York 11766
(631)870-2550
(631) 473-0905 (Fax)

Maureen Poerio
District Clerk/Executive Assistant

Gordon Brosdal
Superintendent of Schools

Lynne Kirchenko
District Treasurer

June 1, 2023

As you may be aware, at the May 2023 meeting, the Mt. Sinai Board of Education (BOE) agreed to consider offering a hold harmless exemption to students for the June 2023 and August 2023 Regents examination period. Mr. Brosdal posted the letter on the reverse side of this correspondence explaining the exemption to the Mt. Sinai website. This exemption is set to be formally approved at the June 13, 2023 Board of Education meeting.

As a result of this, we would like to take this opportunity to remind parents and students that while the BOE is offering this hold harmless exemption to students for these examination periods, it is important to reinforce that **Regents exams are not optional**. Five exams are required for graduation and additional exams are required for advanced diplomas and achieving mastery on the exams can earn a student NYS honors designation. An overview of these requirements and additional information can be found in our course offerings guide under the parent's/academics & curriculum tab on the High School website and on the NYSED website <https://www.nysed.gov/curriculum-instruction/general-education-and-diploma-requirements>

Previous assessment data also indicates that the 20% weighting of the Regents exam typically helps a student's final average rather than harms it and **the Regents exam grade will still appear on your child's official transcript that will be sent to colleges**, therefore we ask that students continue to work with their teachers during the next few weeks in order to reach their fullest potential with completing coursework and preparing for any Regents exams they are required to take.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and should you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to building administration and/or your child's counselor.

Regards,

Peter Pramataris
High School Principal

Elizabeth Hine
Middle School Principal

Brigit DiPrimo
Director of Humanities

Andy Matthews
Director of MST

Cc: Mr. Gordon Brosdal, Superintendent of Schools



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May 16, 2023

Dear Mount Sinai Community,

Please be aware that due to the New York State Special Appeal regarding Regents Exams related to COVID-19, the Mount Sinai Board of Education hereby approves the use of a hold harmless exemption for any Regents Exam grade that negatively impacts a student's final average due to the 20% District weighting that exists in the current Regents Exam Policy. The hold harmless exemption will be in effect for the June 2023 and the August 2023 Regents Exam periods.

Sincerely,

Gordon Brosdal
Superintendent of Schools

Paul Staudt, Vice President
John Hnat, Trustee
Edward Law, Trustee

Board of Education
Peter Van Middeltem, President

Anthony Mangione, Trustee
Karen Pitka, Trustee
Robert P. Sweeney, Trustee