

UPDATE

June 26, 2020

OCS Graduation Ceremony:



We are following the interim guidance from the NYS Department of Health that allows us to plan graduation for **June 26th at 6pm** in the stadium with all of the seniors in the bleachers. Under this current guidance from the Governor, we are limited to graduating candidates and **four** guests. This allows us to stay at or under the 150 person limit. Guests will be able to rotate in groups onto the track when their son or daughter is being called to receive their diploma, watch them cross the stage, and take pictures. People will be able to watch the live stream during the ceremony while the groups ahead of them

receive their diploma. CW6 will air our pre-recorded Virtual Graduation from 7:30-8:00 p.m. tonight. Here is the advertisement for the ceremony: https://youtu.be/f4KyxmQzy9U In the event our live ceremony goes longer than 7:30 tonight, we suggest that you DVR or record the CW6 pre-recorded virtual ceremony. The CW6 video will be sent to your email next week as a keepsake. Here is the link to the CW6 pre-recorded virtual ceremony:

https://cnycentral.com/features/high-school-senior-celebrations/virtual-high-school-celebrations-to-air-on-cw6-stream-on-cnycentralcom Below is the link to Bach Photography to order additional images taken at our live graduation ceremony. Images will be loaded after the ceremony – look for "OCS" https://www.bachphoto.com



Navigating the Guidance: OCS Activities

Phase 4 begins June 26, 2020. We have NOT received full notification to confirm or provide direction on what this means for the school district. We do know schools are still prohibited from any indoor activities, any in-person instruction (excluding special education), and any organized sports or recreational activities that are hosted/operated by the school district. The non-essential gathering restriction is expected to be raised from 25 to 50 in Phase 4.

Community organizations looking to use the facilities or grounds for day camps or youth sports programs are required to follow the applicable guidance issued by the State last week. Please note that the permissibility of youth sports programs (subject to compliance with the State guidance) does not apply to interscholastic school athletic programs. Because our schools remain closed, school district sports teams are not currently authorized to engage in group practices or training organized by school district personnel. We expect additional guidance to be released on that shortly. The tennis courts and tracks are open to the public, but appropriate social distancing should be maintained.

Please be respectful and responsible to others that may be using the track or tennis courts by adhering to all CDC and DOH guidelines to ensure the track and tennis courts can remain open. Playgrounds remain closed.

Important Calendar Dates:

- June 26th Graduation Ceremony at 6:00 PM
- July 7th at 6:00 PM OCSD Reorganization Meeting Virtual <u>Click here for viewing</u> options
- July 7rd BOE Meeting Virtual immediately following the Reorganization meeting <u>Click here for viewing options</u>
- July 23rd BOE Meeting Virtual Click here for viewing options
- August 25th BOE Meeting Virtual Click here for viewing options

Reminder: Private Prom Clarified

The last couple of weeks it came to the District's attention that there is a party planned to take place on July 1, 2020, organized by **parents** in the District. It is the District's understanding the event is being held to make up for the unfortunate fact that the prom was cancelled this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Although the District understands the disappointment related to the cancellation of events typically shared by students and parents due to the school closure, please be advised this event is NOT a school sponsored or school sanctioned activity, but a private event. Sponsorship or

funding of the event by the parents and community members is done independently. The event is not in any manner sponsored or sanctioned by the District. Individuals attending the event, including district teachers, are doing so as individual community members. The District encourages all to be prudent and follow CDC guidelines, practice social distancing, and wear a face mask.

Reminder Parent Surveys:

Please remember we sent out parent surveys by email and appreciate your feedback. Feedback from everyone will help us make adjustments and improve the educational experience for the entire family. Please share with us how you and your child(ren)'s experiences have gone. This survey is NOT designed to be evaluative of your child's teacher. In fact, we won't ask for your name, your child's, or your teachers'. There are opportunities to provide specific feedback to some of the questions. Please know that if you would like to answer differently depending on each of your children's experiences, you can launch another survey after you submit this one. Of course, this is optional. If you have not received a survey, please email the building principal.

Please cross your fingers that we are not distance learning in the fall and thank you for all your support!

Reminder - Fraudulent Unemployment Insurance Alert:

News from the NYS Department of Labor, if you receive a debit card because of fraudulent activity do not use it and shred the card. You may consider keeping the shredding as evidence along with your other work for reporting to the authorities.

As previously reported, this is a well-organized fraud attempt aimed at **private businesses** and **school districts** regarding New York State's unemployment insurance program. The fraudulent activity started in Western New York and has found its way to Central NY. A few employees in the region have received written unemployment claims that include an individual's name, social security number, and home address. The documents appear to be genuine and often contain correct personal information.

Currently, the FBI and Secret Service are conducting an investigation as this is occurring in multiple states around the country. The FBI recommends that individuals whose identities are involved in such fraudulent activity notify the New York State Department of Labor. We are being told the perpetrators of this fraud are sophisticated and have gathered their information from outside sources reportedly from outside the U.S.A. If you receive information from the NYS Labor Department (DOL) that you **did not request,** contact them and your employer's human resource department immediately to take action to protect your identity.

Reminder: High School Summer School Distance Learning

I am sure you are aware of the Governor's announcement that summer school will be delivered remotely. If your high school student needs summer school for credit recovery, I want to assure you that our counselors and school administrators are planning and designing meaningful programming for students. They are working on logistics and an update will be provided within the next few weeks. We have NOT received any information or news on options for summer school for enrichment programs; if such a program becomes available, we will let you know as soon as we have the information.

Approved OCS Code of Conduct Updates for 2020-2021:

On June 23, 2020, we held a Public Hearing reviewing the changes to the <u>District's Code of Conduct</u> to determine compliance with relevant State and Federal laws and regulations, including the Dignity for All Students Act ("DASA"), Education Law, and Commissioner's Regulations. The Board of Education approved the <u>District's Code of Conduct</u> that will be provided in summary form in the student handbook and will be available online on the District's webpage.

Congratulations to our Graduating Class of 2020! We are very proud of all the hard work and accomplishments you have reached.

As always, please do not hesitate to reach out to me with any questions, concerns, or suggestions.

Sincerely,

Rob Price, Superintendent