



MOUNT SINAI UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
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January 11, 2024

Subject: Important Update on NYS Regents Exam/Final Exam Grading Policy

Dear Families,

I am writing to inform you of a change in our grading policy, specifically regarding the weighting of New York State (NYS) Regents exams and final exams.

Before my tenure as superintendent, I understand that there were concerns about the weight of the NYS Regents exam grades on the final average. The previous policy mandated that these exams counted for 20% of the final grade, a percentage that many felt was disproportionately high.

Upon assuming my role, and in response to your feedback, I prioritized re-evaluating this aspect of our grading system. To this end, a grading committee was formed at the start of the school year. Composed of a group of educators, students and parents, the committee was tasked with reviewing the weighting of the Regents and final exams and proposing a balanced approach that accurately reflects students' overall performance and learning throughout the year.

After thorough deliberation, the committee recommended reducing the weight of the NYS Regents exams as well as final exams from 20% to 12% of the final grade. This decision was made with careful consideration of the diverse learning styles and needs of our students, as well as the desire to maintain high academic standards and fairness in our grading practices.

I am pleased to announce that this recommendation has been approved and will be implemented immediately. This change will apply to all current and future students. We believe this adjustment will provide a more equitable and holistic assessment of student performance, allowing for a broader evaluation of their year-round efforts and achievements.

We appreciate your ongoing engagement and feedback, which are invaluable in our pursuit of providing the best possible educational experience for our students. Please feel free to reach out to your child's guidance counselor or school administrators for further clarification or discussion.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership in our educational community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christine Criscione".

Christine Criscione, Ed.D.
Superintendent

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Christy Barbera, Trustee
Charles Carron, Trustee

Board of Education
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