

PLAINVIEW-OLD BETHPAGE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

106 Washington Avenue, Plainview, New York 11803

www.pobschools.org

Dr. Lorna R. Lewis
Superintendent of Schools



Dear Parents and Guardians,

We have been monitoring the statewide results of the new Common Core Regents exams and the Board of Education has heard from you about the need to review the impact of the results of these exams on the final grades of the course. The Board of Education convened a Regents Grading Committee to conduct a formal investigation and to make a recommendation. As a result of the committee's review and discussion of the data, effective for the 2016-2017 school year and going forward, a new grading policy for all high school courses was adopted at the January 30th, 2017 meeting of the Board of Education. **All full year courses will be weighted as follows: 21% for each quarter, 11% for the final exam or Regents and 5% for the Midterm.** Half year courses will be weighted as follows: **42% for each Quarter, 16% for the final exam.**

The Board further adopted a policy to review a Regents exam when the average quarter grades vary from the average Regents grade in a course, by six (6) or more points. The variance of 6 points will be considered a "trigger" for an investigation and recommendation. The 2016 Regents exams for both Geometry and Physics were identified as exams that met the criteria for the "trigger". The Board of Education requested review of the results and a recommendation to address any findings.

By all measures I have found that both the Geometry 2016 CC and the Physics 2016 exams yielded results that were not consistent with a students' past performance and did not reflect their efforts. Typically, the average results of our Regents exams mirror that of our average quarter grades. In these cases, the results varied beyond the statistical error of measurement. After careful analysis of the results of the scales for these exams, the attached revised scale was recommended and accepted at the Feb. 27th Board of Education meeting. The following recommendations were adopted by the Board of Education.

- Accept the Geometry 2016 revised scale and apply the revised scale for all previously earned Geometry 2016 Regents grades for the purpose of recalculating the final average for the Geometry course
- Accept the Physics 2016 revised scale and apply the revised scale for all previously earned Physics 2016 Regents grades for the purpose of recalculating the final average for the Physics course
- Recalculate the GPA of all students affected by the rescaling of the 2016 Regents exams
- Recalculate ranking for the class of 2017 and beyond

We are currently in the process of converting your child's grade to reflect the results from the new scale and will have this change available for your review on the Campus portal transcript report by March 14th. **Please note that the Regents grade that appears on the transcript has remained unchanged. Regulations require that the official grade must appear on the transcript; however, they allow for local discretion as to how this grade may be used in the calculation of a course grade.** We have used the local discretion flexibility to generate the rescaling and computation of the final class grade.

We thank the PTA and the staff who served on the committee and all the parents who came out to advocate for their children. We believe, that the process was one that served our children well and better rewarded their efforts.

Sincerely,

Dr. Lorna Lewis
Superintendent of Schools