



NYS MATHEMATICS — Regents Preparation —

COVID-19 NEWSLETTER

Dear Students, Teachers, and Parents,

I hope you are all safe and healthy during this ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The purpose of this newsletter is to inform you about developments that have been released both by Governor Andrew Cuomo's office and the New York State Department of Education, obtain information about upcoming releases and plans of this website, and discussions of the next academic school year.

It is without a doubt that COVID-19 has changed all of our lives. Daily routines and schedules have been altered, people are social distancing while wearing masks and gloves as if all of us are walking viruses, and a vast majority of New Yorkers are collecting unemployment. But let us not forget that the future education has been changed forever. Things will not be the same for quite some time; perhaps ever again. We must look for a hopeful future as we continue to beat this virus. With time, things may return to the "old" normal we all miss and enjoyed so much.

On April 30th, 2020, Governor Andrew Cuomo announced that **all** schools (K-12 public, private, and charter schools, and colleges/universities) will remain closed for the remainder of the 2019-2020 academic school year. As of today, May 2nd, 2020, summer school has **not** been cancelled. This announcement is bound to reverse in a few weeks if the current situation remains flat or even worsens. In addition, the New York State Education Department's Board of Regents announced that **both** the June 2020 and August 2020 Regents exams have been cancelled for all subjects.

The decision that schools will remain closed was a powerful blow for all seniors across New York State. I am truly sorry that all of you will not experience a senior prom, banquet, and/or graduation that you all deserve and worked so hard for. Local school districts are scrambling to find a safe time for all of you to enjoy these special occasions. My only hope is that these get-togethers will not be tainted by social distancing guidelines. I hope that these restrictions will be lifted once the infection rate dwindles.

As for this website, I will continue to do what is necessary. Since there are no Regents exams until January 2021, there is no need to rush the continued development of this website. Over the next few months and by August, all video solutions for Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2 will be released. In addition, the Facts You Must Know Cold for the Regents Exam in Geometry and Algebra 2 will be revised and published, with Algebra 1 forthcoming in the late summer. SAT practice exam video solutions will also be released as there is now plenty of time to do so! This sounds like great news, but it is important to discuss an unlikely, but realistic situation for the next academic school year.



In the rare event that all schools are closed for a portion or the entirety of the 2020–2021 academic year, teachers and school districts must have a plan in place. We have all switched to the distance learning model incredibly quickly with little to no preparation. This website was not ready for that transition either. That is why *if schools are cancelled for a portion or the entirety for the next academic year, NYS Mathematics Regents Preparation will release topical lessons in Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2*. For example, if you are student in a geometry class and need to learn about quadrilaterals, there will be a packet with information and practice questions with a corresponding video lesson *free of charge!* I always had the intention of doing this for my website, but I was hoping to do so in 2023 when the new set of mathematics standards was implemented and the Common Core was beginning to phase out. However, if school is online next academic year, educators need to have another way to teach their students. After all, not every teacher is “tech-savvy” to make instructional videos. This website will give those teachers who are unable to make videos another option.

With all of this being said, please continue to remain home, social distance, and wear masks and gloves if you must leave your home. Regardless of the protests and reports you see on the news, who claim that being forced to remain home is “tyrannical”, the statistics and facts say otherwise. We are in the midst of a serious pandemic. Thousands of people have passed away and will continue to pass. New York is the hardest hit state of this nation with well over 300,000 confirmed COVID–19 cases. No other citizen residing in other states will truly understand what this virus can do to individuals, families, and communities. Please continue to be smart about your actions and how they can affect the vulnerable in our society. We will get through this.

I hope this newsletter was informative and helpful. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out by emailing me at tclark@nysmathregentsprep.com.

Best Regards,



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Founder of NYS Mathematics Regents Preparation

