

# FLUSHING HIGH SCHOOL

DR. IGNAZIO ACCARDI, PRINCIPAL

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Dear Class of 2020,

I hope this letter finds you and your families well. I wanted to take some time to write to all of you apart from the rest of the school. The Class of 2020 deserves special attention from me. I want you to know that I think of you every day. It seems like so long ago that we were together in our auditorium for a town hall to start the Spring Term. Now, we are unfortunately apart, and hoping that this will end very soon.

Seniors, hopefully you know me enough to know that I am real and call it as I see it. The truth is that this pandemic has hit us very hard. It has hit our world, our nation, our city, and our school hard. Yes, life will get back to normal and our students will go back to our building next year. But next year, all of you I hope will be in college, as you rightfully deserve to be. It is not lost on me that your senior year wasn't supposed to be this way. You all have waited for 12 years of schooling to arrive at your senior year and all of this has occurred. I know it is not fair, and I wish I could change that for you.

All of you over the last four years have seen so much happen in our school, but you also have seen our community rise. I arrived at Flushing High School as your Principal in October 2017. You were in your sophomore year and were a big part of our continued improvement as a school. You have worked hard to get to your senior year and you deserve to enjoy it. I cannot change the course of the pandemic, but I will do everything in my power to give all of you the very best experience I possibly can under these conditions. You have my word that I will work hard on this and think creatively to provide for you experiences that although may not be what any of us envisioned, still give you joy as you graduate high school.

However, I also need your word too. All I ask is that you do everything in your power to pass all your classes from now until June. If you need to make up any classes you failed previously, you must reach out to your guidance counselor immediately. They will enroll you in the additional class or classes you need. If you can't get into contact with your guidance counselor please email our Assistant Principal of Guidance, Ms. Sandtorv at [jsurage@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:jsurage@schools.nyc.gov) or me at [iaccard@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:iaccard@schools.nyc.gov). I am stressing this because last week all Regents Exams in June have been cancelled. As long as you pass the classes you need for graduation, you will graduate. You will automatically get credit for the Regents by passing the class. This is an

amazing opportunity during a terrible time. Please do not let it slip away without you taking advantage of it. I want nothing more than for all of you to graduate!

I will soon be posting videos on your Google Classrooms about this and other important announcements for seniors. Please be sure to be checking into your attendance and Google Classroom every day. In the meantime you can reach out to me via my email:

[iaccard@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:iaccard@schools.nyc.gov).

Finally, if you need us, we are here. I know that many families are dealing with sickness and loss of family members. If you are experiencing trauma, please reach out to anyone you feel comfortable with in our school via email, PupilPath, or Google Classroom. We can help and will always support you.

Stay Healthy and I will see you on video soon!

Best,

I. Accardi