

## Guidance Q & A—Featuring Graduation Requirements

- Q.** How many credits does a student need to graduate?
- A.** Students must earn 44 credits in various subject areas in order to graduate.
- Q.** Does my child need to pass gym every semester?
- A.** Yes. Students must take and pass one Physical Education course each semester. This includes 7 courses in Physical Education and 1 in Health.
- Q.** What Regents are needed in order to graduate?
- A.** In order to graduate, students must achieve a passing grade on five New York State Regent Examinations: Mathematics, Global History, U.S. History and Government, Science and English.
- Q.** What is a passing Regents grade?
- A.** In order to earn a Regents Diploma, students must pass the New York State Regent Examinations in Mathematics, Global History, U.S. History and Government, Science and English with a grade of 65 or higher.
- Q.** What is an Advanced Regents Diploma?
- A.** Students can earn an Advanced Regents Diploma by scoring grades of 65 or higher on the following Regents Examinations: Global History, U.S. History and Government, Life Science, Integrated Algebra, Geometry, Foreign Language, Physical Science and either Algebra 2 or Trigonometry; or Math A and Math B.
- Q.** When are Regents given?
- A.** Regents examinations are given 3 times a year—January, June and August.
- Q.** What happens if a student fails his/her Regents?
- A.** Most Regents are offered 3 times a year. Students should meet with their guidance counselor in order to sign up for re-takes.
- Q.** Where can students go for extra help in passing all courses and Regents exams?
- A.** Guidance counselors, Assistant Principals and teachers offer tutoring and a variety of enrichment programs. Various intervention programs are PLATO, Project Support, Extended Day, etc.
- Q.** What happens if my child fails to meet High School graduation requirements?
- A.** Students may receive continued support and instruction in day, evening and summer school classes through the end of the school year in which their twenty-first birthday occurs.
- Q.** Where can I find out more information about graduation requirements?
- A.** Students can always obtain information about their pending graduation from their guidance counselors. Using online sources, information about graduation can be found on the James Madison website at [www.MadisonHS.org](http://www.MadisonHS.org) or at [www.schools.nyc.gov](http://www.schools.nyc.gov).

## Congratulations to ...

Senior Shadman Torofder, who was accepted to the MIT Class of 2013. According to the Acceptance Committee, Shadman stood out as one of the most talented and promising students in the most competitive applicant pool in the history of the Institute.

Junior Igor Lantsberg, who was chosen as a semi-finalist in the 2009 Public School Art Competition. Igor's artwork, entitled "Table of the Artist," was selected from over one thousand pieces to enter the final judging, which will take place in early April.

Junior Wei Jun Gu, who was accepted to the 2009 Research Internship Program at The Cooper Union Albert Nerken School of Engineering. This is a highly competitive program and students are chosen to participate based on their academic achievements and communication skills.

