



Dear Parents/Guardians:

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania requires all school districts to administer the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA). The PSSA is the annual standards-based assessment used to measure a student's attainment of the Pennsylvania Academic Standards in English-Language Arts (ELA), Mathematics, and Science.

Any student enrolled in grades 3 through 8 during the current 2022-2023 school year will be automatically rostered to take the designated PSSAs for their specific grade.

Each assessment will be administered on the dates outlined on the schedule below, determined by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. Specific assessment schedules regarding the times of each assessment will be provided by your child's school principal.

PSSA Assessment	Dates	Grades
English Language Arts	April 25-27, 2023	Grades 3-8
Math	May 2-3, 2023	Grades 3-8
Science	May 4-5, 2023	Grades 4 & 8
ELA Make Ups	May 1-5, 2023	
Math & Science Make Ups	May 8-12, 2023	

Chapter 4 of Title 22 of PA. Code (22 PA. Code 4.4) provides for the right of any parent/guardian to excuse their child from the state assessment, if upon inspection of the testing materials, find the assessment to conflict with religious beliefs. This is the only reason the state allows students to opt-out of an assessment.

Parents and guardians may review the PSSA materials if they believe they may be in conflict with religious beliefs by making arrangements with the School Principal after exams arrival on April 10, 2023. Parents and guardians must sign the Parent Confidentiality Agreement prior to examining test materials. A copy of the agreement will be maintained at the school.

If you choose to opt your child out of taking one or more the PSSAs, parents must review the test materials for religious beliefs, and provide a written request addressed to the superintendent delivered to the Principals. Please note, parents must submit a separate request for each child you request to be excluded.



Additionally, please review these very important [PDE policies linked on our website](#) to fully understand the state-testing program.

Assessment scores represent a snapshot in time of student performance and should not be considered the sole indicator of student achievement. Data obtained from each assessment serves as one of the tools for planning school programs, designing curriculum and instruction and providing information to the public.

Parents may help their children prepare for the assessments by encouraging them to get plenty of rest the night before testing and have a good breakfast on the mornings of the test.

Thank you in advance for your support. If you have any questions about the test or its administration, please contact me or your school principal.

Sincerely,

Christina Carter
Director of Learning & Assessment