







## PSSA Information and Schedule

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I write to you regarding the 2023 Pennsylvania System School Assessment ("PSSA") exams. The PSSA is a standards-based, criterion-referenced assessment which provides students, parents/guardians, educators, and citizens with an understanding of student and school performance related to the attainment of proficiency of the academic standards. These standards in English Language Arts ("ELA"), Mathematics ("Math"), and Science identify what a student should know and be able to do at varying grade levels. Every Pennsylvania student in grades 3 through 8 is assessed in ELA and Math. Every Pennsylvania student in grades 4 and 8 is assessed in Science. For more information regarding the PSSA exams, please visit the Pennsylvania Department of Education website, which is linked here.

Individual student scores can be used to assist teachers in identifying students who may be in need of additional educational opportunities, and school scores provide information to schools and districts for curriculum and instruction improvement discussions and planning. In compliance with the Pennsylvania School Code, the State Board of Education approved specific criteria for advanced, proficient, basic, and below basic levels of performance. Please note that the school will provide a copy of your student's individual scores on the 2023 PSSA exams upon receipt of the scores from the state.

The school will administer the 2023 PSSA exams as outlined in the below schedule.

	2023 PSSA ELA EXAM				
Grade / Date	April 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2023	April 25th, 2023	April 26th, 2023	April 27th, 2023	April 28th, 2023
Grade 6	Normal	Literacy 1	Literacy 2	Literacy 3	Make-up Testing
	Schedule	8:00am-1:30pm	8:00am-1:30pm	8:00am-1:30pm	Normal
	8:00am-2:00pm				Schedule
					8:00am-3:20pm
Grade 7	Normal	Literacy 1	Literacy 2	Literacy 3	Make-up Testing
	Schedule	8:00am-1:30pm	8:00am-1:30pm	8:00am-1:30pm	Normal Schedule
	8:00am-2:00pm				8:00am-3:20pm
Grade 8	Normal	Literacy 1	Literacy 2	Literacy 3	Make-up Testing
	Schedule	8:00am-1:30pm	8:00am-1:30pm	8:00am-1:30pm	Normal
	8:00am-2:00pm	· ·	· ·		Schedule
	-				8:00am-3:20pm

2023 PSSA MATH AND SCIENCE EXAMS					
Grade / Date	May 1st, 2023	May 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 2023	May 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 2023	May 4th, 2023	May 5 <sup>th</sup> , 2023
Grade 6	Math 1 8:00am-1:30pm	Math 2 8:00am-1:30pm	Normal Schedule 8:00am-3:20pm	Normal Schedule 8:00am-3:20pm	Make-up Testing Normal Schedule 8:00am-3:20pm
Grade 7	Math 1 8:00am-1:30pm	Math 2 8:00am-1:30pm	Normal Schedule 8:00am-3:20pm	Normal Schedule 8:00am-3:20pm	Make-up Testing Normal Schedule 8:00am-3:20pm
Grade 8	Math 1 8:00am-1:30pm	Math 2 8:00am-1:30pm	Science 1 Periods 1-4 8:00am-3:20pm	Science 2 Periods 1-4 8:00am-3:20pm	Make-up Testing Normal Schedule 8:00am-3:20pm

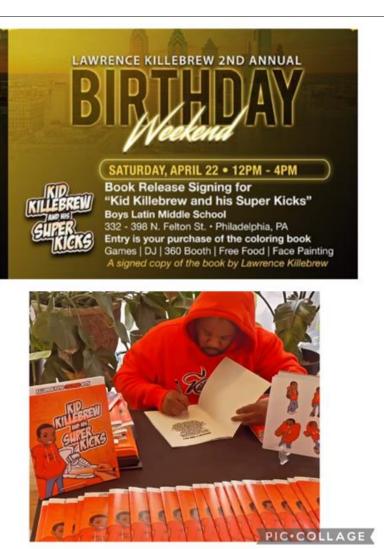
Report Card Conferences We will be holding virtual report card conferences for Report Period 3 on Monday, April 17th from 3-7:30PM

The conference is an opportunity for you to meet with your student's teachers to review your student's grades. Please only sign-up for conferences with teachers if your student is failing a course. We would like to prioritize meetings with parents whose students are failing.

All conferences will be held via Zoom. Please make sure your Zoom account displays the full name you used to schedule the conference. Please arrive to the conference on time. If you are running late or miss your conference, email your student's teacher to reschedule. Please do not hesitate to email your student's teacher with any questions or concerns.

1. Click the sign up link above. Once redirected to the above webpage please fill in the check-boxes of teachers you wish to meet with and hit "Submit".

	2. You will now be directed to the Sign Up page where you will enter Student Name, Parent / Guardian Name, and an Email Address. (Email Address is required for our system to send you a link to actually sign up for a time-slot to meet a teacher.) Hit "Submit" once finished.
	3. You will now receive an email with the link to sign up to all pre-selected teacher conferences. Please click either the blue "PTCFast sign-in link:" or "Click here to select conference time."
	4. Finally you will be directed to the Time Picker page. All previously selected teachers will be shown with their time slots. Please choose an available time slot for each teacher. When finished scroll down and hit "Confirm Selections." The system will then email you the times you selected.
	• Also note each column on the Time Picker page contains that teacher's zoom link in the "Location:" area. Please copy these zoom links down to gain access to conferences
	Sign Up Link: <a href="https://www.ptcfast.com/schools/Boys_Latin_Middle_School_PHL">https://www.ptcfast.com/schools/Boys_Latin_Middle_School_PHL</a>
Spring Uniform Shirts	Warriors can begin wearing Spring uniform shirts. Wears can continue wearing their winter uniform if they like. Students can only wear the Spring Polo Shirt. Students are NOT allowed to wear the gym t- shirt.
Community Connections	This Saturday, April 22 <sup>nd</sup> local comedian and CEO of Killebrew Kicks non-profit Lawrence Killebrew will be holding a book signing event for his new coloring book Kid Killebrew and his Superkicks at our middle school. Killebrew Kicks has partnered with Boys' Latin to donate sneakers to high-performing students who overcome difficult challenges. The proceeds from book sales will go towards the non-profit. Feel free to attend this event to purchase a coloring book.



See link below for summer job opportunities and summer camps for students via the City of Philadelphia

https://www.phila.gov/2023-04-03-welcome-to-the-home-of-itsasummerthing/

## Welcome to the home of #ItsASummerThing

April 3, 2023 | Sheila Simmons | Office of Children and Families, Department of Human Services



Another resource for Summer Jobs for Teens



Dismissal and Community Horseplaying

As the weather changes and our 6<sup>th</sup> and new 7<sup>th</sup> grade students get comfortable traveling home by themselves. Please have conversations with your warriors about how they conduct themselves in the community and traveling home. Neighbors have reached out about students horseplaying in the community and being boisterous and using profane language. These behaviors are not indicative of Boys' Latin Warriors. Please have conversations with your Warrior about who they are traveling home with and about being true to themselves and not following the crowd.

	PLEASE NOTE while students are traveling home or coming to school, and they are engaging in behaviors that violate our code of conduct they will still receive school consequences.
Purchasing Ties and Belts	If your Warrior is in need of a tie or a belt you can purchase ties and adjustable black belts on our <u>Boys' Latin Website.</u> Ties: \$12 Belts: \$5
Technology Updates	1. All students and families must submit all technology related (laptop, passwords, chargers login information) issues/ requests to <a href="mailto:support@boyslatin.org">support@boyslatin.org</a> .
	<ol> <li>In-Person technology support is available to students during their lunch period on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Out IT specialist is available to middle school students on the stage in the dining hall during each lunch period.</li> <li>All students and their parents have received the One-to-One Laptop Program Policy and signed</li> </ol>
	the One-to-One Laptop Program Agreement. This means all students and their parents are accountable to the policy. Students must report damage, issues, and concerns related to their school-issued device (Chromebook and Chromebook charger) to the Technology Department within one school day. Damage due to negligence as well as loss or theft of a school-issued device is the responsibility of the student and their parent. The fee for a lost or stolen Chromebook is \$300.00 and the fee for a lost or stolen Chromebook charger is \$45.00. In the event a school-issued device is stolen, if the student or parent report of the incident is deemed credible, the school will replace the device at no charge to the student or parent. Damage due to negligence or loss of a school-issued device are level two or level three violations of the school's Code of Conduct
	A. Uniforms B. Ways to Support Your Warrior C. Student Attendance and Weekly Reminders D. Dismissal E. Extended Family Network(EFN)
The Man Box	Please join us in helping dismantle the Man Box and redefining what manhood is. To learn more about the Man Box please check out this <u>video</u> and website <u>A Call to Men</u> Each report period, each grade will focus on dismantling a stereotype in the man box and focus on exemplifying the behaviors that boys/men should exemplify.

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Using PowerSchool and Kickboard	<ol> <li>Please be sure to check your students' grades on PowerSchool to see any assignments they need to make-up. We recommend doing this on a weekly basis as teachers update grades every week.</li> <li>Please check Kickboard to see how your student is being celebrated or corrected throughout the week. When students receive 6 corrective behaviors in one week a student will receive a detention</li> <li>If you need login information for your student, please email support@boyslatin.org</li> </ol>
Quick Ways to Support Your Warrior	<ol> <li>Locker Support Many of our warriors need practice opening their lockers. Please have your warrior practice opening a combination lock by using the following link <u>Combination Lock Practice</u>. You can practice directly on a cell phone.</li> <li>Laptop Charging Please make sure your warriors' laptop is charged each night and they bring it to school everyday.</li> <li>Make sure your warrior brings their ID every morning for attendance purposes. If your warrior did not get their picture taken or lost their ID they can see our IT specialist on Tuesday and Thursday during their lunch period.</li> </ol>
Student Attendance and Early Dismissal	Arriving on Time Students are late if they arrive after <b>7:59AM</b> . It is imperative that students arrive before 8AM so they can get to class on time. If students arrive after <b>7:59 they must enter through the Visitor</b> Main Entrance. You can always see your students' attendance on PowerSchool.

	Early Dismissals Students are NOT allowed to be dismissed by phone or email. Only a parent or an emergency contact can pick-up a student for an early dismissal. All early dismissals must occur before 2:30PM.
Dismissal	<b>Please do not double park your car on Callowhill Street</b> . It has caused a very dangerous situation for our students who are walking home and catching public transportation. We also want to respect neighbors and neighborhood traffic flow. We understand that parking is limited, but please DO NOT double park.
Boys' Latin Extended Family Network	<b>Extended Family Network at the middle school. Extended Family Network is like a home and school association.</b> Together we can build a framework for the future and promote mutual understanding, cooperation, and communication among families, teachers, and administrators. We can build a school culture that allows for special events, celebrations, and a strong support network. Together we can help create an atmosphere where students feel excited to come to school and feel encouraged by their entire community. I cannot express how crucial it is to have our families involved in this endeavor.
	Please consider becoming an active member of Boys' Latin Extended Family network. Our Warriors deserve the BEST and our staff would greatly appreciate your support. If you are interested in having a role in building this network, please send an email to <u>efn.ms@boyslatin.org</u> expressing your interest to partner with the network.