

EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, October 7, 2024

Begins at 5:30 p.m

**Administration Office
Board Room**

Committee Members				Remaining Meeting Dates	
Robert Kern - Chairperson		Lori Bali		Gene Marks	
Gary Fedorcha - Co-Chairperson		Todd Breiner		Sherri Molitoris	November 4, 2024
Chad Christman		Michele Dotta		Scott Pyne	
Rhonda Frantz		Nichole Fink		James Schnyderite	
Mathias Green		Bryan Geist		Tania Stoker	
Gale Husack		David Hauser		Michael Strohl	
Donna Kulp		Eric Hill			
Natalie Snyder		Matthew Link			
Angela Williams		Christopher Mann			

Also in attendance:

Agenda

1. Comprehensive Planning Update (Dr. Stoker)
 - Student Services Plan
 - This subplan was shared with stakeholders in the district and updated by all to reflect current student services
 - CP meeting to discuss this plan was held on August 21st.
 - The plan has been posted for public comment
 - Gifted Services Plan
 - Those involved with gifted services met to review, discuss and update this subplan on September 30th
 - We continue to revamp our elementary screening process in light of change of data tools
 - We expect to post this subplan for public review by end of October

2. State Testing (Dr. Stoker)

- 2025 Science Transition to STEELS
 - Spring 2025 Science PSSAs will be issued as a statewide census field test. PDE has received a waiver for federal reporting of PSSA Science scores for the Spring 2025 field test. However, this is not a waiver for participation. Participation in testing is still calculated, reported, and required. At least 95% of Grade 5 and Grade 8 students still must complete the PSSA Science assessment.
 - Starting with the 2024-2025 administration, and continuing each year thereafter, students will take the Science PSSA when enrolled in Grade 5 and Grade 8. Some students testing in 2024-2025 also took the PSSA Science assessment in 2023-2024 while enrolled in Grade 4. They must participate in the 2024-2025 field test.
 - For 2024-2025, LEAs will receive a district level percentile report providing a percentile rank for each student. Student performance data will not be factored into accountability reporting. The PSSA Science testing window runs from April 28 to May 9, 2025.
 - The 2025 Spring Keystone Biology assessment will include field-test items aligned to the new STEELS standards but is not a census field test. Accountability data for both performance and participation will be collected and reported. Students must take the Keystone Biology exam at least once by the end of Grade 11. The Spring Keystone Exam window runs from May 12 to 23, 2025.
- 2026 Online Assessments
 - PSSA and Keystone Exams will only be administered online beginning with the Spring 2026 administration
 - Once all testing transitions to online in 2025-2026, paper/pencil assessments will be available for students with accommodations requiring this format of testing as part of an IEP, 504 Plan, or adjudicated or residential placement.
- Firefly
 - PDE is expanding its suite of assessments. PA Firefly is a new, free, high-quality benchmark assessment that is designed for Pennsylvania, aligned to Pennsylvania standards, and measures the same knowledge and skills as the PSSA and Keystone Exams. PA Firefly will be available for ELA grades 3–8, Mathematics grades 3–8, Keystone Algebra I, and Keystone Literature during the pilot in 2024–2025. The pilot window will run from November 18 to April 18.

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 4, 2024