



Dr. Bill Brossman
Hempfield High School Principal

December 12, 2025

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with information regarding the upcoming Keystone Exams.

Keystone Exams

Passing the Keystone exams for Algebra 1B, English 10, and Biology is one of the pathways for students to meet their graduation requirements. The graduation pathways are included in this mailing. Winter Keystone exams will be offered in January for Semester 1 classes and for any 9th through 11th grade student who has not passed a respective Keystone exam, (Re-testers). Scoring proficient or better on the Keystone examination(s) is the clearest pathway to graduation and will allow students to earn senior privileges.

The only exception to testing recognized by the Pennsylvania Department of Education is for religious reasons. It is imperative that if you decide to opt out of a Keystone exam(s), you must:

- 1) Use the attached "Pathways toward Graduation" document to plan how your student will graduate using an alternative pathway; and
- 2) Provide written notification to Mr. Patrick Conrad, patrick_conrad@hempfieldsd.org, to inform him of your decision to **not** have your student complete the Keystone Exam.

A mandatory meeting to review the exam will be from **December 17-19, 2025**, and graduation requirements will be further discussed with you.

Keystone Testing Assignment

This letter is the *official* notification that your student will take the following Keystone exam(s):

Hempfield High School will operate under a modified bell schedule January 6-9. Students taking an exam must report to their test location at the designated time, 7:40AM. There will be one testing module each day. Testing modules will be 140 minutes in length. Extended time is permitted for all testing modules. Lunch shifts for all students will remain the same, however the time will change, as noted below.

We will administer Keystone Exams on Tuesday, January 6th (Module 1) and Wednesday, January 7th (Module 2) from 7:40-10:00AM for **all** students taking one content area exam.

We will administer Keystone Exams on Thursday, January 8th (Module 1) and Friday, January 9th (Module 2) from 7:40-10:00AM for **all** students taking a second content area exam.

All exams will be done digitally using student iPads. Please be sure school district iPads are charged to complete the exam. Literature, Algebra, and Biology exams will be administered each day with preference in that order.

A student taking all three exams will do so in the order above, completing the last exam on January 12th.



Hempfield School District

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During these four days all bus transportation will operate as normal. However, students who are not testing do not need to be in school until **10:05** when 1st period begins. Any student who needs transportation to school should ride their bus as usual. We will take daily attendance in 1st period after 10:05AM. Breakfast will be operated as usual from 7:20-7:40AM. There will be no breakfast for students arriving at 10:05.

After testing, we will follow this schedule:

10:05-10:55	1 st Period
11:00-11:50	2 nd Period
11:55-1:55	3 rd Period
	A-Lunch – 11:55-12:25
	B-Lunch – 12:25-12:55
	C-Lunch – 12:55-1:25
	D-Lunch – 1:25-1:55
2:00-2:50	4 th Period
No WIN periods	

Make-up exams will be administered on all testing dates through January 15th.

This plan allows us to provide a safe and secure testing environment and accommodate all students in the building.

Please contact the Buchanan Office at 717.898.5500, if you have any questions regarding the information contained in this letter.

Sincerely,

Mr. Patrick Conrad
Grade 10 Principal

Enclosures: Hempfield High School Pathways toward Graduation
PA Dept of Education Code of Conduct for Test Takers

Keystone Information for Parents or Guardians
PA Calculator Policy