



Dear Pleasant Valley Families,

We are writing to inform you that our District will soon begin administering the 2026 Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) and Keystone Exams. We view these assessments as a valuable 'GPS' for your child's education. The results show us exactly where each student is excelling and where they might need a bit more navigation. By understanding these individual milestones, we can better tailor our teaching to help every student—and our entire school community—reach their full potential. This year and beyond, all students in grade 3-12 will test **online**.

2026 DISTRICT PSSA TESTING SCHEDULE

Testing will take place each morning during the windows listed below.

English Language Arts		Math		Science	
PVI	April 21-23	PVI	April 28-29	PVI Grade 5	May 6-7
PVM	April 21-23	PVM	April 28-29	PVM Grade 8	May 5-6
2026 KEYSTONE TESTING SCHEDULE					
Literature		Algebra		Biology	
PVHS	May 13-14	PVHS	May 11-12	PVHS	May 18-19
		PVM	May 11-12		

Important Attendance Guidelines

- **Promptness:** Students must arrive on time; late arrivals will not be permitted into the testing room once a session has started. Buses will operate on the regularly scheduled timetable.
- **Appointments:** Please refrain from scheduling vacations or appointments during these windows.
- **Makeups:** While makeup sessions will be held for students who are absent or arrive late, students typically feel more comfortable testing with their own class.

Supporting Your Child

- Make sure your child's Chromebook is fully charged prior to each testing day.
- Encourage your child to eat a good breakfast each morning. As a reminder, **free breakfast** is available for all students.
- State requirements demand the District complete make-up testing for all students who are absent for any part of the PSSA and Keystone assessments. Please encourage your child to be well-rested, have a positive attitude, and do their best on all exams.

Review and Additional Information

Please understand that under Chapter 4 of Title 22 of the Pa. Code (22 Pa. code 4.4) parent/guardians may request to excuse his/her child from the state assessment if, upon inspection of the testing materials, he/she finds the assessment to be in conflict with his/her religious beliefs. ***This is the only basis for a parent/guardian to excuse his or her child from the statewide assessments.***

Procedure for parent/guardian to request that student be excused from the PSSA/Keystone Exam(s):

1. The parent/guardian needs to initiate contact with the school with a request for his/her student to be excused from the assessment(s).
2. Two weeks prior to the assessment(s), the principal will schedule an appointment for the parent/guardian to come in and view the exam(s). The parent/guardian must sign the Parent Confidentiality Agreement provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Education prior to viewing the exam. No written notes, video, or pictures can be taken of the material. The objection process is not complete until the parents view the exam(s) in the school. If the parent/guardian wants the student to be excused from several exams (i.e. ELA and Math), then the parent/guardian will need to view all of these exams.
3. The parent/guardian submits a written request to the school principal, with a copy to the Superintendent, stating a request to have his/her child opt out of the assessment due to a religious objection. The letter must list the specific name(s) of each assessment about which there is an objection.
4. A parent/guardian will need to make this request each year he/she wishes the student to be excused and he/she will need to view the exam(s) each year as well.
5. The principal will confirm with the parent/guardian that the child will be excused.

Please review the important Pennsylvania Department of Education documents linked below:

[PSSA FAQ \(English\)](#)

[Keystone FAQ \(English\)](#)

[Electronic Device Letter \(English\)](#)

[PSSA FAQ \(Spanish\)](#)

[Keystone FAQ \(Spanish\)](#)

[Electronic Device Letter \(Spanish\)](#)

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's building administration.

- **Intermediate School (PVI):** (570) 402-1000 ext. 3001 - Sabrina Albright
- **Middle School (PVMS):** (570) 402-1000 ext. 2001 - Tim McCutchan
- **High School (PVHS):** (570) 402-1000 ext. 4001 - Amber Chiafulio

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to seeing our students shine during testing—**don't forget that a good night's sleep and a healthy breakfast make all the difference!**

Sincerely,

Pleasant Valley School District Administration