



**MRS. CHARITY COLEBANK, PRINCIPAL
MS. KAELY POTOCHNIK, ASST. PRINCIPAL
SOUTHMORELAND HIGH SCHOOL**

*2351 RTE 981
ALVERTON, PA 15612
724.887.2014*

March 31, 2026

Dear Parents/Guardians:

In May 2026, students enrolled in the following courses will be taking the end of the year Keystone Exams. Those students who have already taken these courses, but not yet taken any of the exams, will be required to take the needed exam(s). Those students who do not have an Act 158 pathway and have not passed the Keystone Exams will also retake the respective exams. These exams satisfy the state and federal testing requirements as well as meet the Act 158 (Graduation Pathways) requirement.

Literature- May 11 and 12, 2026

Biology- May 13 and 14, 2026

Algebra I- May 18 and 19, 2026

Parents/guardians have the right to opt their child(ren) out of taking the Keystone Exams due to a conflict with religious beliefs. According to state regulations, parents must submit a request in writing or via email to the school district superintendent, Dr. Jason Boone (boonej@southmoreland.net) and colebankc@southmoreland.net. **All requests need to be submitted in writing by Friday, April 24, 2026.** Upon receipt of the request, parents will be contacted to schedule a time to preview the exam on-site before the scheduled test date. Prior to reviewing the materials, parents/guardians must sign a confidentiality agreement. After reviewing the assessment, parents/guardians must state in writing or via email to the school district superintendent, Dr. Jason Boone, that they wish to have their child excused from the assessment due to a conflict with religious beliefs.

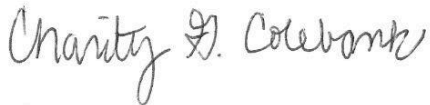
If your child(ren) is currently enrolled in SOLA, he/she will be required to attend school on the scheduled testing days as there is no digital format for the exam. Transportation arrangements can be made by reaching out to the Counseling Office. Any student who is not in attendance and not exempt from the exam, will take the exam during the make-up dates.

We ask that your child get a good night's rest during the testing period and encourage you to have your child at school on time. Testing will begin promptly at 8:00 AM. All students will be tested at the same time. Students that arrive after 8:00 AM will complete their test during a scheduled make-up session.

The Pennsylvania Department of Education's explanation of the Keystone Exams is enclosed along with a copy of the Code of Conduct for Test Takers, Calculator Policy and Electronic Device Policy. Please take the time to familiarize yourself with this information.

If you have any questions, please contact our school counselors, Mrs. Lauren Dillon (dillonl@southmoreland.net) or Mrs. Keera Miller (millerk@southmoreland.net) at 724-887-2013.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charity G. Colebank".

Mrs. Charity G. Colebank