



GREATER Johnstown SCHOOL DISTRICT

April 1, 2019

PSSA / Keystone Information for Parents/Guardians

Dear Parents/Guardians:

All students in grades 3-8 will take the Pennsylvania System of School Assessments (PSSAs).

The testing windows are as follows:

- English Language Arts - April 15th - April 26th
- Mathematics - April 29th - April 30th
- Science - May 1st
- Make-Up - May 1st-3rd

All students who have completed Keystone Algebra, Biology, and English 10 will be required to take the Keystone Exam until they have achieved Proficiency or Advanced status.

The Keystone Exam testing window is as follows:

- May 13th - May 24th

Your child's attendance is especially important during this testing window. All students will be included in the assessment, except for a few students who meet specific criteria. Parents and guardians may review the assessments by making arrangements with the School Assessment Coordinator at each building in the District. In order to view the exams, Confidentiality Agreements must be signed, and no copies of the assessment or notes about assessment items will be permitted to leave the school. If after reviewing the test parents/guardians find the test to be in conflict with their religious belief and wish their student(s) to be excused from the test, the parents/guardians must provide a written request that states the objection to the Superintendent of Schools.

The Greater Johnstown School District takes a great deal of pride in our student performance. Parents/guardians can help their children prepare for the test by ensuring that they get plenty of sleep the night before the test, they eat a good breakfast and encourage them to do their best. If at all possible, please refrain from scheduling appointments during the testing period, as there is a specific amount of time for testing. Once students leave the session they are not able to come back and continue. Thus, every missing response would be considered as an incorrect

answer/response. Again, your child's attendance is extremely important during the year as well as this window. If you have an appointment previously scheduled, please work with your child's school to schedule accordingly.

Please visit our website to view the various documents listed below and more at www.gjsd.net. Once on the page, go to the ABOUT US tab, click on Parents, and then click on the "PSSAs/Keystone" link.

- Cell Phone / Electronic Device Policy
- PSSA FAQ s
- Keystone FAQs
- Student Code of Conduct

In closing, if you are in need of copies of the documents call your child's school and we will be able to mail or send home with your student based upon your preference. We look forward to serving you and addressing any questions you may have.

All the best,

Mrs. Amy Arcurio
Superintendent of Schools
Greater Johnstown School District