

Dear Parents/Guardians:

March 6, 2019

The purpose of this communication is to provide you with information related to the 2019 Pennsylvania System of School Assessments (PSSA). The PSSA assesses student and school performance related to the attainment of proficiency in English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science.

Your child will participate in the 2019 PSSA. The testing windows are listed below:

- April 15 -17, 2019 English Language Arts Assessment for grades 3 – 8
- April 29 & 30, 2019 Mathematics Assessment for grades 3 - 8
- May 1 - 2, 2019 Science Assessment for grades 4 and 8
- April 29 - May 3, 2019 Make-Up Testing

Both individual scores and overall school district data are reported to the district and shared with families. Quaker Valley uses the assessment data to make curricular changes and adjustments, and to provide parents and the community with a measure of Quaker Valley students' academic progress.

All students in grades 3-8 are **required** to participate in the PSSAs. Section 4.4 of the PA School Code provides for the right of parents or guardians to excuse their child from the state assessment if upon inspection of the testing materials, they find the assessment to be in conflict with their religious beliefs. Parents interested in viewing the assessment may set up an appointment from March 25 - April 5, 2019, with their child's principal. If after reviewing the test, a parent wishes to exempt a child from the test for religious reasons, he or she must submit a letter to the Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Tammy Andreyko, **no later than Friday, April 5, 2019.**

As a reminder, electronic devices that can be used to access the internet, duplicate or take pictures, or communicate during testing are strictly prohibited. Please speak with your child and let him/her know that the possession and/or use of a cell phone or any other electronic device during the administration of the PSSA is strictly prohibited.

Enclosed is an FAQ sheet that was provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. It was developed to address questions that parents may have about the test, administration, and the reporting of the results. If you have additional questions about this assessment, please contact your child's counselor: Mrs. Leah Lindenfesler or me. One of us will be able to assist you. Osborne's number is (412) 749-4000. Thank you for your continued support

Sincerely,

Aaron C. Rea
Principal, Osborne Elementary