



WEST SHAMOKIN JR.-SR. HIGH SCHOOL



178 Wolf Drive, Rural Valley, PA 16249-9720

“Home of the Wolves”

Office of the
Jr.-Sr. High School Principal

[@WestShamokinSH](https://twitter.com/WestShamokinSH) 

Telephone
(724) 783-7040

December 20, 2018

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that some of our students at WSHS will be taking the Pennsylvania Keystone Exam(s) in the following subject areas next month: Algebra I, Biology and/or Literature. If your student was enrolled in one of these classes last school year and did not previously pass one of the exams, he/she will be participating in this state requirement beginning January 7, 2019. These state exams are a graduation requirement beginning with the senior class of 2021. Students who are absent during their testing window will be scheduled for make-ups.

Parents/Guardians of students participating in the PA Assessments may review the assessments by making arrangements in advance with the school office. No copies of the assessments will be permitted to leave the area where reviews will occur, nor will note-taking and/or photocopying be permitted. Appointments to review the material or any questions concerning the test may be made through my office at the number listed above.

Section 4.4 of Chapter 4 provides for the right of parents (or guardians) to excuse their children from the state assessment if, **upon inspection of the testing materials**, they find the assessment to be in conflict with their religious beliefs. **This is the only basis for a parental excusal from the statewide assessments.** After reviewing the test(s) parents/guardians must provide a written request addressed to the superintendent for excusal based upon religious conflict.

I would also like to remind parents and students that no electronic devices such as cell phones, cameras, iPads, etc. are allowed in the testing area on the day of the exam per state guidelines.

Student attendance and participation in the PA Assessment Program is representative of the school's academic performance. Your attention to this very important academic matter is appreciated. Please do not hesitate to contact me at the number listed above if you have any questions.

Respectfully,

Stephen D. Shutters, Ed. D.
Principal
West Shamokin High School

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