

CONNELLSVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
732 ROCKRIDGE ROAD  
CONNELLSVILLE PA 15425  
Phone 724-628-3300 Fax 724-628-9002



**Joseph A. Bradley**  
*Superintendent of Schools*

3 January 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Chapter 4 of Title 22 of the Pa. Code (22 Pa. Code 4.4) provides the right for any parent/guardian to excuse their child from the PSSA, PASA or Keystone 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 parent/guardian to excuse his or her child from the statewide assessments.

The following procedures are required for any parent/guardian who wishes to exclude their child for the spring PSSA, PASA or spring Keystone assessments:

1. The parent/guardian must contact Mrs. Gratchic, Curriculum Secretary, at 724-628-3300 x1305 or [tgratchic@casdfalcons.org](mailto:tgratchic@casdfalcons.org) to schedule a date and time to view each assessment. The assessments will be available two weeks prior to the testing window.
2. The parent/guardian will be required to sign a confidentiality agreement prior to reviewing the assessment materials.
3. The parent/guardian will review the assessment at the District Office (732 Rockridge Road, Connellsville, PA 15425) with a monitor present at all times. The parent/guardian must review the assessment prior to the start of the assessment. The parent/guardian is not permitted to take any notes regarding the assessment.
4. After viewing the assessment, if the parent/guardian feels the assessment is in conflict with the family's religious beliefs, the parent/guardian must write a formal letter to Mr. Bradley, Superintendent of Schools, explaining the specific objections and requesting exclusion from the assessment.
5. The formal letter must be on file in the Superintendent's office prior to the start of the assessment for the child to be excluded from the assessment.

If you have any questions concerning the procedures, please contact Dr. Laura Jacob, Assistant to the Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, and Federal Programs at 724-628-3300 x1303 or [ljacob@casdfalcons.org](mailto:ljacob@casdfalcons.org).

Sincerely,

Dr. Laura Jacob, District Assessment Coordinator  
Assistant to the Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction, and Federal Programs