

State Assessments

The Pennsylvania System of School Assessments (PSSAs) shall be administered annually and shall include assessments of the State academic standards in mathematics and English language arts at grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8, and in science and technology and environment and ecology at grades 4 and 8.

Keystone Exam State assessments (Keystones) in Algebra I, Biology, and Literature will be administered following a student's completion of the relevant course.

Levels of proficiency in the PSSAs and Keystones shall be advanced, proficient, basic, and below-basic consistent with criteria established by the State Board of Education.

Children with disabilities shall be included in the assessment system, with appropriate accommodations, where necessary. As appropriate, the staff shall develop guidelines for the participation of children with disabilities in alternate assessments for those children who cannot participate in the assessment as determined by each child's Individualized Education Program team under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and State mandate.

The Superintendent or Superintendent's designee shall prepare and institute a plan to provide additional instructional opportunities for students not achieving at the proficient level including identification procedures, alternate instructional strategies, monitoring a variety of assessment procedures and extended learning opportunities. All students found to be less than proficient on the Keystones shall be offered supplemental instructional support by the District. The supplemental instructional support must be consistent with the student's individualized educational program and assist the student to attain proficiency in the State academic standards.

The Superintendent or designee shall recommend improvements in the curriculum and instructional practices based upon student assessment results and will use assessment results to guide instructional strategies and to develop future strategic plans.

Keystone Exam scores shall be listed on student transcripts for the classes of 2017 and beyond.

Parents

The District shall allow a parent/guardian to review State assessments and to opt their child out of participation in such assessments to the extent permitted and in accordance with other applicable policy and regulation listed below.

Cross Reference: Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 6138 – Nonparticipation in Specific Instruction and State Assessments.