



# Tredyffrin/Easttown Middle School

801 Conestoga Road | Berwyn, PA 19312 | 610-240-1200

---

March 2021

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Considering the circumstances of the pandemic, the state has made changes to the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) testing for this school year, including flexibility on test dates and an anticipated waiver of the 95% participation rate requirement. Regardless of whether students are attending school virtually or in person, in order to participate, students must be present in person during the PSSA testing, as there is no option for virtual testing. Health and safety procedures will be in place, including daily symptom screening, masking, and maintaining six feet of physical distancing to the extent possible but no less than three feet. With this in mind, you have the option to have your child(ren) participate or not participate in PSSA testing this school year.

PSSA testing in English/Language Arts (ELA), Mathematics, and Science will be administered during the window of June 8-11, 2021. The state designed these tests as measures to determine student proficiency according to state standards. Advancement to the next grade level is not contingent on PSSA participation or performance. Historically, T/E Middle School students have performed well on these assessments, and we are confident that this tradition of excellence will continue.

For your convenience, T/E Middle School's PSSA testing schedule is detailed at the bottom of this letter. The **Science PSSA will be administered to students in grade 8 on June 8; the ELA PSSA will be administered to students in grades 5-8 on June 9 and 10, and the Math PSSA will be administered to students in grades 5-8 on June 11.** The building will remain open to students for make-ups during the week of June 14. Teachers will inform students of testing locations and times as the dates draw nearer. Although specific times have been scheduled for test completion, students may request additional time to complete the test, and we will ensure they have the time they need. For further information regarding the PSSA, please refer to the enclosed document from the Pennsylvania Department of Education: Information for Parents and Guardians, Calculator Policy, Code of Conduct for Test Takers, and a letter detailing the consequences should any students possess a prohibited electronic device such as a cell phone, tablet and/or smartwatch during testing.

There are two choices for non-participation which are indicated below:

1. Since the state has applied for a waiver to the 95% participation rate requirement, you may choose not to have your child(ren) participate.
2. As in previous years, the state provides for the right of parents/guardians to excuse their child(ren) from PSSA testing if, upon inspection of the testing materials, the assessment is in conflict with their religious beliefs. An option will be included in the form which can be accessed using the link at the end of this letter for parents/guardians who wish to review the assessment materials.

Schools are required to provide alternate learning activities for students who do not participate in PSSA testing. Students will have the option to participate in these asynchronous activities in school (contingent upon space availability) or virtually from home.

More information will be shared prior to the test dates. In the meantime, [please complete the form included in this link by April 9, to let us know your decision regarding PSSA testing.](#) ***Be sure to complete one response per student.***

If you have any questions related to the testing schedule or process, feel free to call me at 610-240-1203. Thank you in advance for your support.

Sincerely,

Dr. John Mull  
Assistant Principal  
mullj@tesd.net

# PSSA Testing Schedule TEMS 2021

## **Tuesday, June 8: Science (Grade 8 ONLY\*)**

8:27 – 9:55	Block 1
<b>10:05 – 11:30</b>	<b>Science- Section 1 (In lieu of Block 3)</b>
11:40 – 1:35	Block 5 Advisory (Lunch)
<b>1:45 – 3:10</b>	<b>Science- Section 2 (In lieu of Block 7)</b>

*\*Grades 5-7 will follow their normal bell schedule for the day on June 8.*

## **Wednesday, June 9: ELA Sections 1 & 2 (All grades)**

<b>8:45 – 10:45</b>	<b>ELA Section 1</b>
10:50 – 12:30	Block 5/6 Advisory (Lunch)
<b>12:35 – 3:05</b>	<b>ELA Section 2</b>

## **Thursday, June 10: ELA Section 3 (All grades)**

<b>8:45 – 11:15</b>	<b>ELA Section 3</b>
11:25 – 1:05	Block 5/6 Advisory (Lunch)
<b>1:10 – 3:10</b>	<b>PSSA Make-up Testing</b>
1:15 – 1:47	Block 1 Class/Team activities
1:57 – 2:29	Block 3 Class/Team activities
2:39 – 3:10	Block 7 Class/Team activities

## **Friday, June 11: Math (All grades)**

<b>8:45 – 11:00</b>	<b>Math- Section 1</b>
11:05 – 12:40	Block 5/6 Advisory (Lunch)
<b>12:45 – 3:00</b>	<b>Math- Section 2</b>

## **Make-up Testing Sessions**

*The building will remain open to students for make-ups during the week of June 14.*