

Procedures for parents who want their child excused from a State Assessment

1. Parent notifies the building principal that they do not want their child to take the PSSA/Keystone assessment.
 - a. If the building is 100% on-line testing, the principal contacts the assistant superintendent to order paper/pencil materials for the parent to review.
2. The parent has to come to into the school building at least 2 weeks prior to the test administration for review (see policy 213).
 - a. They must sign the Parent Confidentiality Agreement before viewing the assessment.
 - b. An administrator or school counselor must be present at all times when the parent is viewing the assessment.
 - c. The parent must leave their cell phone outside of the viewing room.
3. If after reviewing the assessment, the parent wants to opt-out their child, they must notify the superintendent in writing referring to the conflict with their religious belief.
 - a. If received, the superintendent will notify the building of any student who is excused from the assessment.

CONRAD WEISER
 AREA
 SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT
 PROGRESS

ADOPTED: January 17, 2007

REVISED: March 19, 2014

213. ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT PROGRESS	
<p>1. Purpose Pol. 212</p>	<p>The Board recognizes that a system of assessing student achievement can help students, teachers, and parents/guardians to understand and evaluate a student's progress toward educational goals and academic standards.</p>
<p>2. Definition Title 22 Sec. 4.11</p>	<p>Assessment shall be the system of measuring and recording student progress and achievement that enables the student, parents/guardians and teachers to determine a student's attainment of established academic standards and to learn the student's strengths and weaknesses, plan an educational or vocational future for the student in areas of the greatest potential for success, and know where remedial work is required.</p>
<p>3. Authority SC 1531, 1532 Title 22 Sec. 4.11, 4.51, 4.52 Pol. 102</p>	<p>The Board directs that the district's instructional program shall include a system of assessing all students' academic progress. The system shall include descriptions of how achievement of academic standards will be measured and how this information will be used to assist students having difficulty meeting required standards.</p>
<p>Title 22 Sec. 4.52</p>	<p>Students with disabilities shall be included in the district's assessment system, with appropriate accommodations when necessary.</p>
<p>Title 22 Sec. 4.52</p>	<p>The district's assessment system shall include a variety of assessment strategies which may include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Written work by students. 2. Scientific experiments conducted by students. 3. Works of art or musical, theatrical or dance performances by students. 4. Examinations developed by teachers to assess specific academic standards. 5. Nationally-available achievement tests.

<p>4. Delegation of Responsibility Title 22 Sec. 4.52</p>	<p>6. Diagnostic assessments.</p> <p>7. Evaluations of portfolios of student work related to achievement of academic standards.</p> <p>8. State mandated tests.</p> <p>10. Other measures, as appropriate, which may include standardized tests.</p> <p>The Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement procedures to assess student progress, in accordance with district goals and regulations of the State Board of Education.</p>
<p>5. Guidelines</p>	<p>At the outset of any course, each student should be informed about the academic standards to be attained.</p> <p>Each student should be kept informed of personal progress during the units of a course of planned instruction.</p> <p>Methods of assessment shall be appropriate to the planned instruction and maturity of students.</p> <p>Assessment strategies should objectively evaluate and reward students for their efforts.</p> <p>Students should be encouraged to assess their own academic achievements.</p> <p>All assessment systems shall be subject to continuing review and revision.</p>
<p>24 P.S. §4.4 (d) (4 and 5)</p>	<p>Parents or guardians can review the State assessments within the school entity, at least 2 weeks prior to their administration, during convenient hours for parents and guardians. Necessary security requirements to maintain the validity of the assessment will be taken in accordance with the State assessment administration instructions.</p> <p>If upon inspection of State assessments parents or guardians find the assessment in conflict with their religious belief and wish their students to be excused from the assessment, the right of the parents or guardians will not be denied upon written request to the school district superintendent.</p>



Parent Confidentiality Agreement

In accordance with 22 Pa. Code § 4.4 and to ensure the security and confidentiality of the assessment, when any individual inspects a Pennsylvania System of School Assessment pursuant to 22 Pa. Code §§ 4.4 and 4.5, the individual must attest to the following:

As a parent of a student who will sit for a Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) during the current school year, I understand that I have the right to review the relevant PSSA and that maintaining the validity of the assessment is of the utmost importance. I further understand that all PSSA, including the content contained in each test booklet and answer booklet, are the secure, propriety property of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Education (PDE). Therefore, I agree not to discuss, disseminate, or otherwise reveal the content of the assessment materials to anyone, including my own child(ren).

I understand that violation of these terms could result in personal liability for damages caused by a breach of test security, including but not limited to liability and/or costs associated with any of the following: retesting students; recalculating student/school/school district achievement data; developing/producing new test materials to replace compromised test materials; and investigations relating to the breach of test security.

I further understand that false statements herein are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa.C.S. § 4904 (relating to unsworn falsification to authorities).

Name (Print): _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Witnessed by: _____

Date: _____