

March, 2024

RE: Parental Request to View the PSSA / Keystone Exams

Dear Parent/Guardian:

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

A parent/guardian can have his/her student opt-out of participating in the PSSA or Keystone Exams by completing ALL of the following steps:

1. Assessments will be available for review by parents and guardians two weeks before the testing begins. The assessment must be viewed on district property and district personnel must be present at all times. Proper security and confidentiality must be maintained at all times. Building principals will coordinate a time for the exam review. **The last date to request an opt-out for PSSA exams is Monday April 8. The last date to request an opt-out for Keystone exams is Monday, April 29.**
2. Parents/guardians must sign the Parent Confidentiality Agreement. Parents/guardians must view each subject test from which they want to opt-out their student(s).
3. If after reviewing the test(s) parents/guardians find the test to be in conflict with their religious beliefs and wish their student(s) to be excused from the test, the parents/guardians must provide a written request that states that objection to the Superintendent, Dr. Bridget O'Connell.

Once completion of these steps has been communicated to the Superintendent, a letter approving the opt-out request will be sent to the parent/guardian.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact your child(ren)'s principal.

Sincerely,



Dr. Michael W. Donnelly
Assistant to the Superintendent for Educational Services
Principal, Tinicum Elementary School