

RSD PSSA Opt-Out Information 2023-2024

According to the 2024 Pennsylvania PSSA Assessment Handbook, the protocol for parental request for exclusion from the assessment is as follows: (please initial on lines)

_____ Prior to each testing window, assessments will be available for review by parents and guardians. The assessment must be reviewed on district property and district personnel must be present at all times.

_____ Parents and guardians must sign the Parent Confidentiality Agreement. Parents and guardians may not photocopy, write down, or in any other manner record any portion of the assessments, including directions.

_____ If after reviewing the test parents/guardians find the test to be in conflict with their religious beliefs and wish their child(ren) to be excused from the test, the parents/guardians must provide a written request that states the objection to the Superintendent.

_____ If the student is excused from the assessment due to parental or guardian request, school personnel must provide an alternative learning environment for the student during the assessment. This may include replacement assignments and/or activities.

_____ Because the PSSA is designed to measure a student’s level of achievement of the Academic Standards as identified by the Assessment Anchor Content Standards, non-participation prevents the student from seeing how well s/he has achieved the Anchors. Also, non-participation affects a school’s overall results. If a significant percentage of students fail to participate in the assessment, a true picture of the school will not be presented. Federal legislation makes it mandatory for each school to have at least 95% of its population participate in the state assessment, or it will fail to make adequate yearly progress (AYP).

_____ Our school district utilizes performance data on benchmark assessments and PSSAs to drive instructional plans and individual approaches to academic groups, supports and program offerings. The lack of adequate performance results may lead to inefficiency in individual student program placement and schedule sequences in subjects or courses.

The 2023 PSSA testing window begins Monday, April 22, 2024

Tests can be viewed starting Monday, April 8, 2023

Please contact the High School Head Teacher, Mr. Tofani at 724-646-5700 ext. 7713 or by emailing jtofani@reynoldssd.org to schedule an appointment for students in grades 7-8.

More information on the opt-out can be found at <https://www.pacode.com/secure/data/022/chapter4/s4.51b.html>

Student Name (Print): _____ Grade: _____

PSSA(s) Student is Opting-Out (ELA, Math, Science): _____

Parent/Guardian Name (Print): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

School Personnel Signature: _____ Date: _____