

RSD KEYSTONE Opt-Out Information 2023-2024

According to the 2024 Pennsylvania Keystone 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.

_____ In order to graduate students must complete Requirements set forth by Act 158 of 2018. The Keystone Exam provides a Keystone Exam Proficient Pathway and a Keystone Composite Pathway to complete the Requirements set forth by Act 158 of 2018. By opting out of the Keystone Exams students are limited to the Alternative Assessment Pathway in order to graduate. These pathways are more stringent and require successful completion of concurrent enrollment courses in an academic content area associated with the Keystone Exam.

_____ Because the Keystone Exam 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 Keystone Exams 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 2024 Keystone testing window begins Monday, May 13, 2024

Tests can be viewed starting Monday, April 29, 2024

***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 enrolled in Algebra I, Biology I, or English II.***

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: _____

Keystone(s) Student is Opting-Out (Algebra I, Biology, Literature): _____

Parent/Guardian Name (Print): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

School Personnel Signature: _____ Date: _____