



Neshaminy School District

Administrative Offices • 2250 Langhorne-Yardley Road • Langhorne, PA 19047

April 2, 2025

Dear Neshaminy Parents and Guardians,

This letter provides detailed information regarding the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) as well as the required opt-out procedures. The content of this letter is lengthy, but necessary in order to provide the required information.

PSSA Participation:

The PSSA is the Pennsylvania Department of Education's (PDE) annual standards-based assessment used to measure a student's attainment of the Pennsylvania Academic Standards in English-Language Arts (ELA), Mathematics, and Science.

Any student who is enrolled in grades 3 through 8 during the **current** 2024-2025 school year will be automatically rostered to take the designated PSSAs for his or her specific grade this April/May.

The PSSAs will be administered online in your child's school building, and students will use their district issued Chromebook to complete the assessment(s). Each assessment will be administered on the dates outlined on the schedule below. Specific assessment schedules regarding the times of each assessment will be provided by your child's school principal.

Middle School PSSA Testing Dates	
English Language Arts (Grades 5, 6, 7, 8)	April 22, 23, 25 (AM Sessions)
Math (Grades 5, 6, 7, 8)	April 28 & April 29 (AM Sessions)
Science (Grade 5, 8)	April 30 & May 1 (AM Sessions)
Make-up Window	April 28 – May 2

PSSA Opt-Out Procedures:

Chapter 4 of Title 22 of the Pa. Code (22 Pa. code 4.4) provides for the right of any parent/guardian to excuse his/her child from the state assessment if, upon inspection of the testing materials, he/she finds

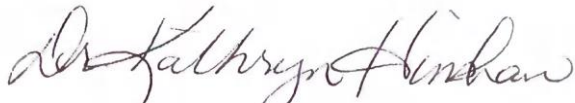
the assessment to conflict with his/her religious beliefs. This is the only basis for a parent/guardian to excuse his or her child from statewide assessments.

Parents/Guardians may review the PSSA questions if they believe they may be in conflict with their religious beliefs by contacting the school and making arrangements with the office staff once the exams arrive to the school building. All assessments are scheduled to arrive in District the week of April 7, 2025. Parents/Guardians must sign the [Parent Confidentiality Agreement](#) prior to examining test materials. A copy of this agreement will be maintained at the school.

If after reviewing the assessment parents/guardians find the test to conflict with their religious beliefs and wish their student(s) to be excused from the test, parents/guardians must send a written request to opt their child out of the assessment for religious reasons. Send these requests via email to the District Assessment Coordinator, Brian McPeake (bmcpeake@neshaminy.org). Please note, it is important to submit a separate request for each child you are requesting to be excluded for religious reasons.

Thank you for your support throughout the PSSA testing sessions. If you have additional questions, please contact our office directly or your child's school principal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dr. Kathryn Hinshaw". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Dr. Kathryn Hinshaw
Assistant to the Superintendent
Director of Secondary Education
215-809-6512