

2012 Grade 11 PSSA Parent Information Letter

Dear Parents of Students in Grade Eleven,

Each spring, Pennsylvania measures the academic performance of students using the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA). All students are included in this testing, with exclusions for only a very few students. This assessment provides schools with valuable information about student achievement and program quality.

This year the testing will occur during the testing windows listed in the chart below.

PSSA TEST	Grades	CB East Test Dates
Reading & Math	3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 11	March 12, 13, 14
Writing	5, 8, 11	April 16, 17, 18
Science	4, 8, 11	April 23, 24, 25

Why are the PSSA assessments so important?

1. PSSA scores are included on student transcripts sent to colleges.
2. Students scoring well on the PSSA Grade 11 receive letters of commendation from the Pennsylvania Department of Education.
3. One of Pennsylvania's graduation requirements is proficiency in the academic standards, as demonstrated by scoring proficient or advanced on the PSSA Grade 11 or on alternate district assessments. Passing the PSSA is the most efficient way to demonstrate proficiency.

What if students do not achieve proficiency on the grade 11 assessments?

Students not passing the PSSA Grade 11 have an opportunity for a PSSA RETEST in October of grade 12. To prepare for this, they will automatically be scheduled into a SKILLS LAB class in the first marking period. This will reduce opportunities for electives and late arrival/early release.

Students with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) will be provided appropriate support as determined by their IEP team. They may be certified for graduation by their PSSA scores, by portfolio review, or by an alternative method determined by their IEP team.

How can I find out more information about the assessments?

Please see the Information for Parents flyers from the Pennsylvania Department of Education posted on the Parent Resources section of the Central Bucks website. This flyer can be found under Curriculum and provides more detailed information about each test and overall testing procedures.

The Central Bucks School District is committed to helping each student reach proficiency levels and to providing extra assistance for anyone who has not yet reached that level. As always, we ask your support in reinforcing the importance of these tests and helping your child do his or her best work.

Sincerely,

Abram M. Lucabaugh
Principal, Central Bucks High School East