



South Fayette Township School District

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Superintendent of Schools

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*Assistant to the
Superintendent for
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Ms. Kristin M. Deichler
*Assistant to the
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Secondary Education*

April 7, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Please note that the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) is moving forward with the administering of the PSSA (Pennsylvania System of School Assessment). The PSSA Assessments have not been modified or updated so that they can be taken remotely by students. Therefore, students will need to report to school in order to complete these annual assessments.

In an attempt to accommodate a testing environment for our Middle School and Intermediate School Cyber Academy students, we will be administering the PSSA Assessments on the following Asynchronous Wednesdays while no other students are in the buildings:

PSSA English Language Arts (Grades 3-8): May 5, 12, 19

PSSA Math (Grades 3-8): May 26

PSSA Science (Grades 4 and 8): June 2

Testing Environment: Students will be required to wear a face covering for the duration of their time in the building and/or on the bus. Students will be spaced at least six feet apart at all times.

Transportation: Students will be able to utilize district transportation on these days and will be spaced as far apart as possible on each bus. Students will be picked up at their typical morning time and returned home at the end of a typical school day. Students must wear a face covering while on the bus.

Additionally, parent/guardian transportation is permitted. Students would have to be dropped off at the Middle School by **8:00 AM** and the Intermediate School by **9:00 AM**. Students are permitted to be picked up at the completion of the testing window (**11:30 AM Middle School, 12:30 PM Intermediate School**). If a child needs additional testing time, they will be afforded that opportunity and can leave upon completion of that portion of the assessment.

If students are utilizing district transportation or being picked up by a parent/guardian at the end of the school day, they will be permitted to work on school assignments on their laptops following the completion of the assessments. If students plan on staying after testing until the end of the day, please make sure that they bring their school-issued laptops, as well as possibly novel/leisure reading materials. Students are not permitted to have devices in the testing areas. Therefore, these devices will be securely held until after testing, along with any other work that students may bring.

Students will be supervised in work areas during this time in which there is at least six feet of physical distancing between each individual.

The mission of the South Fayette School District, in partnership with the community, is to cultivate academic, artistic, and athletic excellence by instilling a spirit of collaboration and communication to develop confident, ethical and responsible leaders.

Food Service: Students are permitted to bring their own lunch from home on these days, or they will be provided with a free lunch from our food service department. **Lunches will only be necessary if the student will be staying for the duration of the day.** All testing must be finished before students are permitted to take a break for lunch.

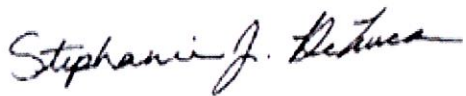
We know that this has been a challenging year, and, as in the past, we very much appreciate your support in emphasizing the importance of these assessments and that each child does his or her best work. PDE is not providing families with an “opt out” exemption related to the pandemic for cyber students. You may contact either Assistant to the Superintendent, Mrs. Stephanie DeLuca or Ms. Kristin Deichler, if you have any additional questions.

The make-up testing window for all students will be **June 1st to June 10th.**

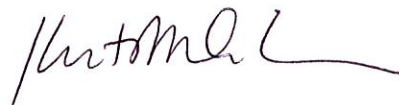
Please refer to the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) for additional information regarding the PSSA state assessments. As in the past, we very much appreciate your support in emphasizing the importance of these assessments and that each child does his or her best work. Please be sure that your child is well rested and eats a healthy breakfast as the students do expend considerable effort during these assessments.

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please feel free to contact one of us.

Sincerely,



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