

March 25, 2021

Re: PSSA Exams



Dear Middle School Families,

During the month of May, all Moon Area Middle School students will be required to take the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) exams. All students, including fully virtual and Moon Cyber students, must attend school in person on the exam dates. Students who do not attend in person on their scheduled testing days will be marked absent and must come to school in person to take make-up exams on another day. To adhere to CDC guidelines and ensure student safety, the middle school will operate a testing schedule that reduces the number of students in the building.

During the testing windows for English Language Arts and mathematics, only two grade levels will come to school in person for testing. The other two grade levels will attend school through the virtual learning model. Bus transportation and cafeteria service will be provided on all testing days during usual times. Please see the table below for specific days that each grade level is testing for each subject area.

All Students, Including Fully Virtual and Moon Cyber, Must Follow This Testing Schedule

ELA	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
May 3 (Monday)	Testing in person	virtual learning	Testing in person	virtual learning
May 4 (Tuesday)	Testing in person	virtual learning	Testing in person	virtual learning
May 5 (Wednesday)	Testing in person	virtual learning	Testing in person	virtual learning
May 6 (Thursday)	virtual learning	Testing in person	virtual learning	Testing in person
May 7 (Friday)	virtual learning	Testing in person	virtual learning	Testing in person
May 10 (Monday)	virtual learning	Testing in person	virtual learning	Testing in person

MATH	Grade 5	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
May 11 (Tuesday)	Testing in person	virtual learning	Testing in person	virtual learning
May 12 (Wednesday)	Testing in person	virtual learning	Testing in person	virtual learning
May 13 (Thursday)	virtual learning	Testing in person	virtual learning	Testing in person
May 14 (Friday)	virtual learning	Testing in person	virtual learning	Testing in person

SCIENCE	Grade 8
May 20 (Thursday)	Testing in person
May 21 (Friday)	Testing in person

*Grades 5-7 follow a regular school day schedule.

Because the science test is only for Grade 8 students, students in grades 5-7 will attend school on May 20 & 21 with their usual learning model (hybrid or fully virtual). All students in grade 8 (including virtual and Moon Cyber students) are required to come to school in person for the science test days.

You will receive additional testing information as we approach the scheduled testing days. This correspondence will include information from the PA Department of Education (PDE) about its calculator policy, cell phone policy, and a Q & A document about the exams.

Please contact the middle school counseling office at 412-264-9440 x2021 with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Melissa Heasley
Middle School Principal