



INTERBORO SCHOOL DISTRICT

900 WASHINGTON AVENUE

PROSPECT PARK, PA

MAINTAINED BY THE BOROUGHES OF GLENOLDEN, NORWOOD, PROSPECT PARK AND TINICUM

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

PHONE: 610-461-6700|FAX: 610-957-6500

March 26, 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian,

On February 22, 2021, The U.S. Department of Education (USDE) issued guidance regarding state assessments for the 20-21 school year. [This guidance](#) confirmed that states must mandate school districts to administer state assessments for accountability as required by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). USDE indicates that especially during the 2020-21 school year such assessments will help parents, educators, and policymakers, “to understand the impact COVID-19 has had on learning and identify what resources and supports students need.”

Pennsylvania Department of Education submitted an [official communication](#) to USDE on February 26, 2021 indicating that Pennsylvania school districts will administer state assessments during an extended testing window that begins in April 2021.

Attached to this letter is the schedule that the Interboro School District has developed for the administration of the PSSAs for our in-person 3rd -6th grade and hybrid 7th-8th grade students. The schedule extends over multiple days during the month of May to ensure a balance of testing, learning, and fun. On days when the assessments are scheduled, testing will occur in the student’s classroom for only a portion of the school day. When talking to your child about the upcoming assessments, please reiterate to them how proud you and their teachers are of their efforts this year. Indeed, they are living history right now – no child has ever before experienced teaching and learning in the way that they have during the COVID-19 pandemic. The PSSA is another opportunity for us to prepare the best educational environment for the 2021-22 school year.

In the near future, Stephanie Farmer and Kelin Spina, administrators for the District’s virtual programs, will communicate specific schedules for iSync and iCyber students to safely participate in PSSA testing during the months of April & May. The schedule for iSync and iCyber students will be developed based on the feedback received from parents and guardians of our virtual students.

The 2020-21 school year has been both unique and challenging. Throughout this year, our community of learners, parents and guardians, and educators has proven that we are resilient and adaptable. We will work together to safely administer the state assessments and use the data as part of the story of educating children during a pandemic – helping us to make informed decisions to support student success.

Sincerely,

Bernadette C. Reiley
Superintendent of Schools

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Interboro School District

PSSA Schedule for In-Person 3rd – 6th Grade Learners

Test Type	Estimated Time	Administration Date
ELA 3rd Grade	Section 1 (43-59 min) Section 2 (48 min) Section 3 (43-59 min)	May 4,5,6
ELA 4-6 Grades	Section 1 (67-78 min) Section 2 (88 min) TDA Section 3 (70-80 min)	May 4,5,6
Mathematics 3-6 Grades	Section 1 (78 min) Section 2 (78 min)	May 11,12
Science 4th Grade	Section 1 (38 min) Section 2 (38 min)	May 19 (both sections)

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PSSA Schedule for Hybrid 7th and 8th Grade Students

Test Type	Estimated Time	Administration Date
ELA 7 th -8 th grades	Section 1 (67-78 min) Section 2 (88 min) TDA Section 3 (70-80 min)	7/8th A - May 3, 5, 10 7/8th B - May 4,6, 7
Mathematics 7 th -8 th grades	Section 1 (78 min) Section 2 (78 min)	7/8th A – May 12, 14 7/8th B – May 11, 13
Science 8 th Grade	Section 1 (45 min) Section 2 (45 min)	8th A - May 19 (PSSA sections 1&2) 8th B - May 20 (PSSA sections 1&2)

The annual Pennsylvania System School Assessment (PSSA) is a standards-based, criterion referenced assessments which provides students, parents, educators, and citizens with an understanding of student school performance related to the attainment and proficiency of academic standards. These standards in ELA, Mathematics, and Science and Technology identify what a student should know and be able to do at varying grade levels. Every Pennsylvania student in grades 3 through 8 is assessed in ELA and Math. Every Pennsylvania student in grades 4 and 8 is assessed in Science.

Individual student scores, provided only to their respective schools, can be used to assist teachers in identifying students who may be in need of additional educational opportunities, and school scores provide information to schools and districts for curriculum and instruction improvement discussions and planning. ([PDE](#))