



February 9, 2022,

Dear Parents/Guardians of PASA-eligible students,

The Pennsylvania Alternate System of Assessment (PASA) is a statewide alternate assessment designed for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities. Specifically, it is intended for those who are unable to participate meaningfully in the PSSA or Keystone assessments even with accommodations. By administering the PASA to students with severe disabilities, schools achieve compliance with federal laws and the Pennsylvania School Code that require that all students participate in the statewide accountability system.

The PASA is a series of individually administered picture-based multiple-choice tests given each spring to students by their teacher or another certified Test Administrator who knows the student well. Test administration can be adapted so that even students with the most severe disabilities can participate in the assessment and receive a score.

The test, administered to students in grades 3 through 8 and 11, consists of: 30 test items aligned with PA English Language Arts (ELA) standards; 30 test items aligned with PA math standards; and, for students in grades 4, 8, and 11, 30 test items aligned with PA science standards. Each test item represents an authentic, relevant, and age-appropriate skill related to ELA, mathematics, or science.

While the PASA results are only one measure of your student’s achievement, these assessments are important ones. Individual PASA results are significant, and the school and district results are published through various media outlets, and reflecting the overall performance of the West Chester Area School District.

All students in grades 3 through 8, and 11 must take either the PSSA, Keystone or PASA. The only exemption given by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is for religious reasons. In order to obtain a religious exemption, parents are no longer required to come into buildings to view the PASA test. The second page of this letter will explain the online opt out process. Once you have reviewed the test, you must notify the district’s Superintendent, Dr. Robert Sokolowski, and the district’s Director of Equity & Assessment, Dawn Mader, requesting the religious exemption for any of the individual assessments. You may enter the opt out request here: [PASA OPT OUTS](#). The specific WCASD PASA testing dates, windows during which assessments may be reviewed, and when the superintendent must be notified of a parent’s written request are as follows:

PASA*	Testing Window*	Review of Test	Notify Superintendent
Reading, Math, & Science	3/14/22 - 5/20/22	2/9/22 - 3/4/22	By 3/4/22
* Case manager will be able to provide estimated date(s) of when student will take the PASA.			

If you have any additional questions please contact me or Dawn Mader, Director of Equity and Assessment, at 484-266-1201.

Sincerely,

# PASA Online opt out Information

1. Go to the [Dynamic Learning Sample Testlet Site](#).
2. Select which test you wish to view (English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science).
3. Go to the left and choose "Testlets."
4. Select the test you wish to view on the right.
5. Submit your request for religious opt out here: [PASA OPT OUTS](#)

Instructional Resources for YE Model States

Looking for resources for your state? Go to your state's page directly:

Does my state use the IE or YE model?

The instructional resources on this page are for states using the **Year-End model**.

An asterisk (\*) by the resource means your state may offer a custom version. To check for custom resources, go to your state's DLM webpage and filter on *Instructional Resources*.

English Language Arts \* Mathematics Science

### Mathematics

Select Category

- Essential Elements
- Collections
- \* Testlets
- Glossary

LINKAGE LEVEL	RELEASED TESTLET
Initial Precursor	Math.6.NS.5-8.IP ←
Distal Precursor	Math.7.G.5.DP ←
Proximal Precursor	Math.5.G.1-4.PP ←
Target	Math.N-CN.2.b.T ←
Successor	Math.8.G.9.S ←
SAMPLE TESTLET INFORMATION PAGES	