

KEYSTONE EXAM REVIEW / “OPT OUT” REQUEST

Attention Parent or Guardian-

Section 4.4 of Title 22, Chapter 4 provides for the right of any parents or guardians to excuse their child from the state assessment if, upon inspection of the testing materials, they find the assessment to be in conflict with their religious beliefs. This is the only basis for a parent or guardian to excuse his or her child from the statewide assessments.

- Approximately two weeks prior to the testing window, exams will be made available for review by parents and guardians. The exam must be reviewed on district property and district personnel must be present at all times. Plymouth Whitemarsh HS will coordinate a convenient time for the review with the parent/guardian. Proper security and confidentiality of the exam must be maintained at all times.
- Parents and guardians must sign the Parent Confidentiality Agreement. A copy of this signed agreement will be locally maintained and not be sent to PDE or DRC. Parents and guardians may not photocopy, write down, or in any other manner record any portion of the exams, including directions.
- If after reviewing the test parents/guardians find the test to be in conflict with their religious beliefs and wish their student(s) to be excused from the test, the parents/guardians must provide a written request that states the objection to the Superintendent. Students excused from the state assessment due to parental or guardian request will be coded as “Non Assessed Students” for the exam, specifically listed under the description “Student had a parental request for exclusion from the assessment.”

On the next page is a copy of the Parent Confidentiality Agreement. If you would like to review a paper copy of the Keystone Exam, please print it out, complete the form, and submit to the Testing Coordinator/Assistant Principal, Mr. Stephen Price no later than two weeks before the start of the testing window as Parents/Guardians will be permitted to review the Keystone Exam in the presence of the Principal or his/her designee.



Parent Confidentiality Agreement

In accordance with 22 Pa. Code § 4.4 and to ensure the security and confidentiality of the assessment, when any individual inspects a Keystone Exam pursuant to 22 Pa. Code §§ 4.4 and 4.5, the individual must attest to the following:

As a parent of a student who will sit for a Keystone Exam during the current school year, I understand that I have the right to review the relevant Keystone Exam and that maintaining the validity of the assessment is of the utmost importance. I further understand that all Keystone Exams, including the content contained in each test booklet and answer booklet, are the secure, propriety property of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Education (PDE). Therefore, I agree not to discuss, disseminate, or otherwise reveal the content of the assessment materials to anyone, including my own child(ren).

I understand that violation of these terms could result in personal liability for damages caused by a breach of test security, including but not limited to liability and/or costs associated with any of the following: retesting students; recalculating student/school/school district achievement data; developing/producing new test materials to replace compromised test materials; and investigations relating to the breach of test security.

I further understand that false statements herein are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa.C.S. § 4904 (relating to unsworn falsification to authorities).

Name (Print): _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Witnessed by: _____

Date: _____