



**Carlisle Area School District**  
**540 West North Street • Carlisle, Pennsylvania 17013**  
**717-240-6800 • [www.carliseschools.org](http://www.carliseschools.org)**  
**Christina M. Spielbauer • Superintendent**

---

**SPRING 2021 PSSA - ELEMENTARY**

April, 2021

Dear CASD Families:

The purpose of this letter is to provide information on your student's upcoming PSSA tests. All schools in Pennsylvania are required by law to administer a reading and a mathematics assessment in grades 3 through 5 and a science assessment in grade 4. These tests will be administered to your child according to the following schedule:

Assessment

Grades 3, 4, 5 English Language Arts PSSA  
Grades 3, 4, 5 Mathematics PSSA  
Grade 4 Science PSSA

Dates

May 3, 4, and 6  
May 10 and 11  
May 17 and 18

**Questions:** We recognize that this has been a unique and unprecedented year. We will do everything possible to support and encourage students as they undertake the state-mandated tests. Questions about the test or testing procedures should be directed to your child's building principal.

**Documents:** Additional documents attached to this message include:

- PSSA and Keystone FAQs (Note: PDE utilized last year's (19-20) form.)
- Code of Conduct for Test Takers
- CASD Electronic Device Policy During Testing

**Opt-Out Procedures:** We recognize a family's right to opt-out of the state assessments. Families who wish to opt-out of the assessments should send an email to your building's principal ([carmichaela@carliseschools.org](mailto:carmichaela@carliseschools.org)) which contains the following information:

1. Your student's name and grade;
2. A formal request to "opt out" of state testing;
3. The reason for opting out. Please indicate "Seeking Religious Exemption" or "Other Reason."
  - a. If "Seeking Religious Exemption," the parent is permitted to schedule a meeting with the principal to view the test, and then submit a second note indicating that, based on the review of the test, the test is in conflict with religious beliefs. Please indicate in your email if you request this meeting with the principal to review the test. If you do not want to meet, your email is sufficient to opt-out of the test.
  - b. If "Other Reason," please briefly indicate the reason if you feel comfortable doing so.

Sincerely,

Michael R. Gogoj  
Director of Curriculum and Instruction