Keystone Exams

Parent Presentation

Winter Wave

January 7, 2013

HS Board Room

7:00 PM

Some History

* Prior to 2012-13 school year, schools must test students in 3rd - 8th and 11th grade in Math, Reading, Writing and Science (PSSA)
  * Math and Reading – Grades 3-8 and 11th
  * Writing 5th, 8th and 11th grades
  * Science 4th, 8th grade and 11th grades
  * PSSA serves as PA state test to demonstrate AYP in order to comply with the Federal Law – No Child Left Behind

PSSA

* For 2013 PSSA remains in place for students in 3rd - 8th grade in Math, Reading, Writing and Science
  * Math and Reading – 3rd – 8th grades
  * Writing 5th and 8th grades
  * Science 4th and 8th grades
  * PSSA will continue to serve as PA state test to demonstrate AYP for 3rd – 8th grades in order to comply with the Federal Law – No Child Left Behind

Enter Keystones

* First Operational Test – Spring 2011
* Keystone always intended to be end-of-course exam
* Some tests to be required for graduation
* Budget constraints – one cause for change
* Pennsylvania makes a proposal to USDOE (US Dept of Ed) to allow Keystones to replace 11th grade PSSA
* July 2012 schools were informed by PDE of proposal that the 11th grade PSSA would not be given in 2013
* PDE response is that Keystone will be replacement for 11th grade test for AYP
* School Districts wait during summer/fall 2012 for direction from PDE

Additional Keystone History

* Original plan to offer 10 Keystone Exams with most counting for graduation
* Due to budget constraints number of tests reduced
* Districts administer first Operational Keystones in Spring 2011 with intent to continue
* Due to budget constraints Keystone is not given in Spring 2012
* Students who took Algebra 1, Biology or 10th grade Literature in 2011-12 school year did not have opportunity to take Keystone as an end of course exam

Who takes the January Keystones

* Who must take the Keystone Exams in January?
  * Students younger than 12th grade who took Algebra I, Biology or Literature in a past year and didn't have opportunity to **take and pass** the Keystone as an end of course exam
    * 8th grade Algebra II students
    * 9th, 10th and 11th grade students who took Biology and/or Algebra in 8th, 9th or 10th grade and didn't take Keystone
    * All 11th grade students who took Literature in 2011-12 and couldn't take Keystone because it was not offered
    * Students who took the Keystones in Spring 2011 as an end of course exam and did not pass

May 13-24, 2013 Keystones

* Students who did not pass the Keystones in January
* Students who are currently taking the following courses:
  * Algebra 1
  * Biology
  * 10th grade Literature
* Additional parent presentation:
  * January 24, 2013

Testing Dates

* Two Testing Window Options
  * December 3 – 14, 2012 or
  * January 9 – 23, 2013
* We chose the January option
* High School – January 14-16, 2013
  * Algebra 1, Literature and Biology
* Middle School – January 10 and 15, 2013
  * Algebra 1

Testing Times

* MS – Algebra 1 only
    * Module 1 – January 10th and Module 2 – January 15th
        * Periods 1-3 on both days
* HS – Algebra I, Literature, Biology – All test given in the a.m. Class Period Rotation to avoid missing same class periods for 3 days
    * Algebra I – January 14th
        * Periods 1 and 2 (each double periods)
    * Literature – January 15th
        * Periods 3 and 4 (each double periods)
    * Biology – January 16th
        * Periods 10 and 11 (each double periods)

Test Security – Cell Phones

* **Cell Phones, Cameras, other electronic devices:**
  * Students taking Keystones at the MS or HS are asked to leave cell phones at home or in locker on testing day.
  * Students **WILL BE ASKED** upon arrival to testing location if they have a cell phone in their possession.
    * If student shares they possess phone, must place cell phone in an envelope, seal, record name, give to teacher
      * Cell phone will be returned to student in the envelope as he/she leaves testing location
    * If student phone is "discovered" phone will be confiscated, checked for photos of the test, and incident **MUST BE REPORTED** to PDE
      * Teacher reports to Principal
      * Principal reports to Director of Secondary Education who contacts PDE immediately. Being in possession of a phone is a **SERIOUS BREACH** of test security.

Test Security - Calculators

* Students may use approved calculators on approved section of the Algebra 1 test

* ALL memory must be cleared from the calculator prior to arriving in testing location

* Math teachers have information regarding calculators that are/are not permitted to be used for the test

Test Security

* Permitted:
  * Clean scratch paper – will be provided by teachers
  * MUST be returned with the test
* Not Permitted:
  * Cell phones and other electronic devices
  * Non-approved calculators
  * Dictionaries, Thesauruses, Spell or Grammar checkers

Test Preparation

* On-line Testing
  * On-line Tutorial
    * https://pa.drcedirect.com
    * Under Test Set-up click on General Information
    * Go to the Test Tutorial tab
    * Click on the play button to view the tutorials
    * There are tutorials for both the Keystone Exams and the CDT's

Test Preparation

* On-line Tools Training (OTT)
  * Provides an introductory experience using the on-line assessment software
  * Allows students to become familiar with testing on a computer
  * To view the public version of the OTT
    * https://pa.drcedirect.com
    * Select On-line Tools Training software and download
    * User name and password is contained in log in screen

Sample Question – Algebra 1

* Multiple Choice
    * Samantha and Maria purchased flowers. Samantha purchased 5 roses for *x* dollars each and 4 daisies for *y* dollars each and spent $32 on the flowers. Maria purchased 1 rose for *x* dollars and 6 daisies for *y* dollars each and spent $22. The system of equations shown below represents this situation.
        * $5x + 4y = 32$
        * $x + 6y = 22$
    * Which statement is true?
        * A. A rose costs $1 more than a daisy. *
        * B. Samantha spent $4 on each daisy.
        * C. Samantha spent more on daisies than she did on roses.
        * D. Maria spent 6 times as much on daisies as she did on roses.

Sample Question – Algebra 1

* Constructed Response
  * Keng creates a painting on a rectangular canvas with a width that is four inches longer than the height.
    * **A.** Write a polynomial expression, in simplified form, that represents the area of the canvas.
    * Keng adds a 3-inch-wide frame around all sides of his canvas.
    * **B.** Write a polynomial expression, in simplified form, that represents the **total area** of the canvas and the frame.
  * Keng is unhappy with his 3-inch-wide frame, so he decides to put a frame with a different width around his canvas. The total area of the canvas and the new frame is given by the polynomial $h2 + 8h + 12$, where h represents the height of the canvas.
    * **C.** Determine the width of the new frame. Show all your work. Explain why you did each step.
    * ***Students are limited to the space provided***

Sample Question - Biology

* Multiple Choice
  * **1.** Which statement **best** describes a difference between prokaryotic cells and eukaryotic cells?
    * A. The presence of both DNA and ribosomes in prokaryotic cells indicates that they are more complex than eukaryotic cells.
    * B. The larger size of prokaryotic cells indicates that they are more complex than eukaryotic cells.
    * C. The presence of membrane-bound organelles in eukaryotic cells indicates that they are more complex than prokaryotic cells. *
    * D. The larger size of eukaryotic cells indicates that they are more complex than prokaryotic cells.

Sample Question - Biology

* Constructed Response Example:
  * Proteins are a major part of every living cell and have many different functions within each cell. Carbohydrates also perform numerous roles in living things.
    * **Part A:** Describe the general composition of a protein molecule.
    * **Part B:** Describe how the structures of proteins differ from the structures of carbohydrates.
    * **Part C:** Describe how the functions of proteins differ from the functions of carbohydrates.
    * ***Students are limited to the space provided***

Sample Question - Literature

* *Multiple Choice*
    * Students read an excerpt from a work of Literature
    * **1.** What does the word squalid mean as used in the passage?
        * A. neglected
        * B. distant
        * C. hectic
        * D. bulky

Sample Question - Literature

* Multiple Choice
    * Same passage
    * **2.** Based on information in the passage, which conclusion can be made about life in Howard's childhood town?
        * A. Life is simple and characterized by hard work.
        * B. Life is luxurious and distinguished by great wealth.
        * C. Life is communal and filled with hectic social activities.
        * D. Life is depressing and marked by unproductive idleness.

Sample Questions - Literature

* Multiple Choice
  * Same passage
    * **3.** Which characteristic of the passage **best** indicates to the reader that it is fiction rather than nonfiction?
      * A. the use of active verbs
      * B. the use of paragraphs
      * C. the development of a tone
      * D. the development of a plot

Sample Question - Literature

* Constructed Response
    * **9.** Analyze what Howard's thoughts throughout the passage reveal about his personality.
    * Use information from the passage to support your analysis.
    * Students do not need to come to test knowing specific works of literature
    * ***Students are limited to space provided***

Keystone Information/Samples

* Access PDE's SAS site
  * http://www.pdesas.org/
  * Click on Assessment
  * Click on Keystone Exams
  * Click on Item and Scoring Sampler
    * Choose a subject

Test Preparation

* CDT's
* Student Conferencing
* Keystone Style Questions
* Review of Sample Test Questions
* Review of key Alg 1, Biology and Literature concepts

Student Preparation

* Review sample questions on-line
* Do not stray outside of space provided for answers
* Good night's sleep and breakfast day of test
* Prompt arrival at school
* Necessary materials
  * Calculator
  * #2 Pencils

Future

* Graduation Requirements
* Starting with the class of 2017 (current 8th grade) students must pass the Algebra 1, Biology, and Literature tests in order to graduate
* This is intended to become a revision of the Pennsylvania Graduation Requirements
* Tentative plans to add future tests

Future Parent Presentations

New Tests and Graduation Requirements

* January 24, 2013
    * HS Board Room
    * 12:00-1:00 PM

* January 24, 2013
    * MS Auditorium
    * 7:00-8:00 PM

Common Core and PACC Standards

* January 31, 2013
    * MS Auditorium
    * 7:00-8:00 PM

* February 1, 2013
    * HS Board Room
    * 12:00-1:00 PM

Thank you!

Questions????