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2022 PSSA Letter to Parents and Guardians



March 7, 2022

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

Beginning on April 25, 2022, students in grades 3rd through 5th will participate in the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA). As you are well aware, the PSSA has become an integral part of what schools across Pennsylvania are required to do each Spring. The student scores on these standardized tests are factored into teacher evaluations and building scores, which are calculated by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. It is important that students do their very best on this assessment, as with any standardized local or state assessment they take in school.

Some ways that parents can help prepare their children for the PSSA's include ensuring proper rest and nutrition. Please make sure your son or daughter gets a good night's rest each night before testing. Also, be sure they eat a good breakfast each morning before the test, whether at home or by encouraging them to eat the free breakfast that is available to all students each morning at school. Please review the enclosed parent information (as provided to us by the Pennsylvania Department of Education) and the Code of Conduct for Test Takers with your son or daughter. It is recommended that students leave their cell phones at home the day of testing.

IMPORTANT: If students bring a cell phone or any other electronic device (i.e. iPads, iPods, tablets, MP3 players, smart watches, etc.), they will be required to put them in a plastic bag with their name on the bag. The test administrator will collect the electronic devices. These devices will be handed back to students when the testing is over and all test booklets have been removed from the classroom for the day.

The mission of Premier Arts and Science Charter School is to provide learning opportunities for every student, without exception, using a back-to-basics approach integrating technology, in an effort to acquire a core of academic knowledge and master basic skills.



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CODE OF CONDUCT FOR TEST TAKERS

DO...

- Get a good night's sleep.
- Eat a good breakfast.
- Listen to, read, and follow all directions given.
- Ask questions if you do not understand the directions.
- Read each question carefully, especially multiple-choice items that ask for the "best answer". Also, be sure to read any open-ended items and writing prompts carefully before responding.
- Be careful when marking your answers so that you do not skip spaces or fill in the wrong sections.
- Make sure to completely fill in the bubble for the answer you select and erase completely any answers you change.
- Keep your eyes on your own test.
- Try to answer each test item.
- Check that you have completed all the test items in the test section before closing your test booklet or submitting your final responses online.
- Report any suspected cheating to your teacher or principal.

DO NOT...

- Bring notes with you to the test.
- Bring any electronic devices (e.g., cell phones, smart phones, etc.) other than an approved calculator, if applicable, to the test.
- Share a calculator with others.
- Use the bubbles in the answer booklet to either eliminate possible incorrect answers or possible correct answers. Mark only the bubble for the one correct answer you have chosen.
- Talk with others about questions on the test during or after the test.
- Take notes about the test to share with others.
- Leave an online test session until the session is complete or until instructed to do so.

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