



WEST SHAMOKIN JR.-SR. HIGH SCHOOL



178 Wolf Drive, Rural Valley, PA 16249-9720

“Home of the Wolves”

Office of the
Jr.-Sr. High School Principal

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March 19, 2018

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The Pennsylvania System of School Assessment Tests will be administered at West Shamokin Jr.-Sr. High School beginning the week of April 9th, 2018. Students in Grade 7 will take tests in English Language Arts and Math, while students in Grade 8 will be assessed in English Language Arts, Math and Science. The tentative schedules for the exams to be administered are during the following windows:

ELA- April 10-12
Math- April 17-18
Science- April 24-25

Parents/Guardians of students participating in the PA Assessments may review the assessments by making arrangements in advance with the school office. No copies of the assessments will be permitted to leave the area where reviews will occur, nor will note-taking and/or photocopying be permitted. Appointments to review the material or any questions concerning the test may be made through my office at the number listed above.

Section 4.4 of Chapter 4 provides for the right of parents (or guardians) to excuse their children 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 parental excusal from the statewide assessments.** After reviewing the test(s) parents/guardians must provide a written request addressed to the superintendent for excusal based upon religious conflict.

As a reminder: Students are not permitted to have cell phones, cameras, or any other electronic devices in their possession during the administration of the assessments. Students will need to be aware of the attached district policy in advance and encouraged to leave such items at home on assessment days.

Student attendance and participation in the PA Assessment Program is representative of the school's academic performance. Your attention to this very important academic matter is appreciated. Please do not hesitate to contact me at the number listed above if you have any questions.

Respectfully,

Stephen D. Shutters, Ed. D.
Principal
West Shamokin High School

The Armstrong School District is an equal opportunity education institution and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color national origin, age, sex and handicap in its activities, programs or employment practices in accordance with Federal and State statutes and regulations. For information regarding civil rights, grievance procedures, services, activities and facilities that are accessible to and usable by handicapped persons contact the Office of Human Resources, Title IX and 504 Coordinator, at 181 Heritage Park Drive, Suite 2, Kittanning, PA, (724) 548-6000.