

# CMS NEWSLETTER

## APRIL 2024



### MESSAGE FROM MR. STECKEL:

I hope everyone has an opportunity to spend time with family and friends during our spring break. The third marking period ends Wednesday, April 3, 2024. Report cards will be available to view and print through your parent portal on Tuesday, April 9, 2024 after 3:00PM. We will send out a PowerAnnouncement reminder when report cards become available. Marking Period 4 starts Thursday, April 4, 2024. Please contact the main office if you have any questions about accessing your child's report card (610-264-4341). The best way to stay on top of your child's academics is to continue to view your child's grades and attendance through PowerSchool. You may contact your child's teachers by email or phone if you have any questions/concerns, and you may also request a team meeting which can be held online through Google Meets.

#### Reminders:

\*[Tutor.com](https://www.tutor.com) Resource

\*CMS Campus opens @ 7:45: important that students do not arrive prior to 7:45

\*Cell Phones/Electronic Devices need to be turned off and in students' lockers or backpacks.

\*Student HUB is selling CMS t-shirts for \$15 (Adult Sizes S - XL)

## IMPORTANT NEWS

### APRIL CALENDAR

- APRIL 3 - END OF THE 3RD MARKING PERIOD
- APRIL 4 - BEGINNING OF 4TH MARKING PERIOD
- APRIL 4 - 8TH GR. FORMAL PARENT MEETING 6:30-8:30
- APRIL 8 - CHC GRIEF GROUP 1:00-2:00
- APRIL 9 - REPORT CARDS AVAILABLE ON PARENT PORTAL AFTER 3PM
- APRIL 12 - QUARTER 3 PBIS REWARD - STUDENT SOCCER GAME
- APRIL 15 - CHC GRIEF GROUP 1:00-2:00
- APRIL 15 - IPADS, CHARGERS, AND CORDS REMAIN IN THE SCHOOL
- APRIL 16 - PTF MEETING 7PM
- APRIL 15 - 19 - PSSA SPIRIT WEEK
- APRIL 22 - 24 - PSSA ELA GRADES 5 - 8
- APRIL 26 - PTF SPRING DANCE 6:30 - 8:30PM
- APRIL 26 - ELA PERFECT ATTENDANCE REWARD
- APRIL 29 - 30 - PSSA MATH GRADES 5 - 8
- MAY 1-2 - PSSA SCIENCE GRADE 8

#### UPCOMING EVENTS IN MAY

- MAY 3 - MATH PERFECT ATTENDANCE REWARD
- MAY 3 - 10- CMS BOOK FAIR
- MAY 7 - MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL INSTRUMENTAL CONCERT 7:00 @CHS
- MAY 8 - MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL CHORAL CONCERT 7:00 @ CHS
- MAY 9 - CMS ACHIEVEMENT NIGHT 7:00-8:00

### PSSA SPIRIT WEEK 4/15 - 4/19

**Monday 4/15- Knock the Socks Off the Test Day**

Wear your favorite pair of socks

**Tuesday 4/16- Be Your Brightest Self Day**

Wear bright colors

**Wednesday 4/17- CMS RED-dy for the Test Day**

Wear red

**Thursday 4/18- Don't Sweat the Test Day**

Wear Sweatpants/Workout Clothes

**Friday 4/19- School Spirit Day**

Wear your Catty gear

### PBIS MARKING PERIOD 4 GOAL

Our goal for the 4th Marking Period is

No Office Referrals or Write-ups !

- [PBIS Flyer](#)
- Students that have 0 office referrals or write-ups will have extended time at Catasauqua Park for Field Day!

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## PLEASE REVIEW THE FOLLOWING ITEMS REGARDING PSSA'S

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STUDENTS IN GRADES 5 - 8 ARE REQUIRED TO TAKE THE PSSA'S AS MANDATED BY THE STATE. PLEASE CLICK ON THE LINKS BELOW TO VIEW COMMUNICATION FROM THE STATE FOR PARENTS OR GUARDIANS REGARDING THE FOLLOWING:

- **Frequently Asked Questions about the PSSA's** - [PSSA FAQ's](#) - [PSSA FAQ'S \(Spanish\)](#)
- **PSSA CELL PHONE OR OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY** - [ELECTRONIC DEVICE LETTER](#)
  - PLEASE NOTE **PENNSYLVANIA SPECIFICALLY STATES NO CELL PHONES OR ELECTRONIC DEVICES ARE ALLOWED AT THE TEST SITE.** THIS INCLUDES CELL PHONES, SMARTPHONES, SMARTWATCHES, E-READERS, NOOKS, KINDLES, IPODS, TABLETS, CAMERA-READY DEVICES, AND ANY OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICE WHICH CAN BE USED TO PHOTOGRAPH OR DUPLICATE TEST MATERIALS, ACCESS THE INTERNET, AND/OR COMMUNICATE WITH OTHERS DURING THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE PSSA OR KEYSTONE EXAMS. PLEASE SPEAK WITH YOUR CHILD AND LET HIM OR HER KNOW THAT THE POSSESSION AND/OR USE OF A CELL PHONE OR OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICE DURING THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE PSSA OR KEYSTONE EXAMS WILL RESULT IN CERTAIN CONSEQUENCES. STUDENTS MUST TURN OFF AND KEEP THEIR CELL PHONES OR ELECTRONIC DEVICES IN THEIR BOOK BAGS OR PURSE DURING THE PSSA ADMINISTRATION.
- **CODE OF CONDUCT FOR TEST TAKERS** - [PSSA CODE OF CONDUCT](#)
- - **A LIST OF DO'S AND DON'TS FOR STUDENTS DURING THE PSSA TESTS.**

PLEASE READ ALL ATTACHED COMMUNICATIONS, AND IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING THE PSSA ASSESSMENT OR ADMINISTRATION, PLEASE CONTACT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING SCHOOL COUNSELORS:

- MRS. STACEY CARPENTER, SCHOOL COUNSELOR FOR GRADES 6 & 8, AT [CARPENTERS@CATTYSD.ORG](mailto:CARPENTERS@CATTYSD.ORG)
- MRS. DYMOND-JONES, SCHOOL COUNSELOR FOR GRADES 5 & 7, AT [DYMONDJONESA@CATTYSD.ORG](mailto:DYMONDJONESA@CATTYSD.ORG)

THE ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA) AND MATH PSSA'S ARE ADMINISTERED IN GRADES 5 - 8 AS TWO SEPARATE TESTING ASSESSMENTS, WHICH MEANS THERE IS ONE ASSESSMENT FOR ELA AND ONE ASSESSMENT FOR MATH. STUDENTS IN GRADE 8 TAKE THE SCIENCE PSSA'S AS WELL. STUDENTS WILL TAKE THE ASSESSMENTS DURING THE COURSE OF THE DAY AND HAVE A MODIFIED SCHEDULE FOR THE REMAINDER OF THEIR ACADEMIC SUBJECTS:

### **PSSA SPIRIT WEEK:**

TO HELP STUDENTS GET INTO THE SPIRIT OF TAKING THE PSSA'S, WE HAVE DESIGNATED THE FOLLOWING DRESS DAYS FOR STUDENTS:

- MONDAY, APRIL 15 - KNOCK THE SOCKS OFF THE TEST DAY - WEAR YOUR FAVORITE PAIR OF SOCKS
- TUESDAY, APRIL 16 - BE YOUR BRIGHTEST SELF - WEAR BRIGHT COLORS
- WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17 - CMS IS RED-DY FOR THE TEST - WEAR RED
- THURSDAY, APRIL 18 - DON'T SWEAT THE TEST - DRESS IN WORKOUT CLOTHES
- FRIDAY, APRIL 19 - SCHOOL SPIRIT DAY - WEAR YOUR CATTY GEAR

**GRADES 5 – 8 PSSA ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA):** STUDENTS REPORT TO SCHOOL AT THE NORMAL TIME. BETWEEN 7:47-8:05 AM, THEY WILL GET BREAKFAST FROM THE CART, REPORT TO HOMEROOM, AND TEACHERS WILL TAKE ATTENDANCE. STUDENTS MOVE TO THEIR ASSIGNED TESTING SITES BEFORE THE START OF THE PSSA'S.

- APRIL 22 – SECTION 1 – FULL DAY OF SCHOOL
- APRIL 23 – SECTION 2 – FULL DAY OF SCHOOL
- APRIL 24 – SECTION 3 – FULL DAY OF SCHOOL

**GRADES 5 – 8 PSSA MATH:** STUDENTS REPORT TO SCHOOL AT THE NORMAL TIME. BETWEEN 7:47-8:05 AM, THEY WILL GET BREAKFAST FROM THE CART, REPORT TO HOMEROOM, AND TEACHERS WILL TAKE ATTENDANCE. STUDENTS MOVE TO THEIR ASSIGNED TESTING SITES BEFORE THE START OF THE PSSA'S.

- APRIL 29 – SECTION 1 – FULL DAY OF SCHOOL
- APRIL 30 – SECTION 2 – FULL DAY OF SCHOOL

**GRADE 8 PSSA SCIENCE:** THE PSSA'S ARE SCHEDULED AT A CERTAIN TIME IN THE DAY AND STUDENTS HAVE A MODIFIED SCHEDULE. TEACHERS WILL REVIEW THE SCHEDULE WITH EACH HOMEROOM. BETWEEN 7:47-8:05 AM, THEY WILL GET BREAKFAST FROM THE CART, REPORT TO HOMEROOM, AND TEACHERS WILL TAKE ATTENDANCE. TEACHERS WILL TAKE AND SUBMIT ATTENDANCE IN POWERSCHOOL BY 8:09 AM.

- MAY 1 – SECTION 1 – FULL DAY OF SCHOOL
- MAY 2 – SECTION 2 – FULL DAY OF SCHOOL

**IT IS CRUCIAL FOR STUDENTS TO BE IN SCHOOL AND ARRIVE AT SCHOOL ON TIME FOR EACH SESSION SINCE PSSA'S ARE STATE-MANDATED ASSESSMENTS. PLEASE SCHEDULE APPOINTMENTS AND MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR TRIPS AROUND THE PSSA DATES LISTED ABOVE; NO EDUCATIONAL TRIPS WILL BE APPROVED DURING A STATE-MANDATED ASSESSMENT.** YOU CAN ASSIST YOUR CHILD IN PREPARING FOR THE TESTS BY HAVING THEM GET PLENTY OF SLEEP AND EATING A WELL-BALANCED BREAKFAST FOR EACH SESSION. THIS WILL ALLOW YOUR CHILD TO THINK CLEARLY WHILE ANSWERING THE TEST QUESTIONS. TEACHERS HAVE BEEN PREPARING STUDENTS FOR THESE CRITICAL ASSESSMENTS ALL YEAR THROUGH OUR CURRICULUM, DAILY INSTRUCTION, CDTs, EXACT PATH, HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS, QUIZZES, AND TESTS. PLEASE REVIEW THE STUDENT TIPS FOR TAKING THE PSSA'S WITH YOUR CHILD.

**STUDENT TIPS FOR TAKING PSSA'S:**

- GET AT LEAST 10 HOURS OF SLEEP THE NIGHT BEFORE A TEST
- EAT A HEALTHY BREAKFAST ON EACH TEST DAY
- DRESS COMFORTABLY
- BRING ALL THE SUPPLIES YOU NEED
- ARRIVE AT SCHOOL ON TIME
- READ TEST DIRECTIONS AND QUESTIONS CAREFULLY
- TAKE A FEW DEEP BREATHS TO RELAX
- TELL YOURSELF, "I CAN DO IT!"

**KEYSTONE ALGEBRA I EXAM:**

- MAY 14 – MODULE 1 – FULL DAY OF SCHOOL
- MAY 15 – MODULE 2 – FULL DAY OF SCHOOL