



**CARBONDALE AREA**  
**JR-SR HIGH SCHOOL**

PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE  
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Joseph W. Farrell  
Principal

Lawrence A. Gabriel  
Assistant Principal

April 2023

Dear Parents,

Carbondale Area Jr./Sr. High School students will be participating in the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA), and subject specific Keystone Exams during April and May. PSSA's are administered in the areas of English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics in grade 7 and in the areas of ELA, Math, and Science in grade 8. The PSSA's are standards-based assessments used to measure school and student performance related to the attainment of proficiency of academic standards. The Keystone Exams will be given to students currently taking Algebra I, Biology, and/or ELA 10. Keystone Exams are end of course assessments designed to assess proficiency in subject-specific content. The results of the assessments are used to further develop curriculum and plan instruction. Students must score proficient or advanced on all three Keystone Exams in order to be eligible for graduation. If students do not score proficient or advanced, alternate pathways to graduate do exist. A more in-depth explanation of those alternate pathways can be found on our website titled "Pathways to Graduation". Your child's assessment results will be shared with you when they are available in the fall.

PSSA testing for ELA will be on April 24, 2023, and continue through April 26, 2023. The ELA assessment will be followed by Math, then Science. The Keystone Exams will begin on May 15, 2023, and conclude on May 23, 2023. A more detailed testing schedule will be posted on our web page. Teachers will also send it as we get closer to the exam-testing window. If your child is absent on any of the scheduled testing dates arrangements will be made for them to make-up the missed testing session.

Please make sure that your child gets a good nights' rest during the testing. Be positive throughout the testing and give them strong encouragement to do their best. By working together, we can continue to achieve great things here at Carbondale Area Jr-Sr High School. If I can be of any help or if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 844-330-2273.

Sincerely,

Joseph W. Farrell Principal