

Middle School Guidance



Science P.S.S.A. Information

April 2007

The P.S.S.A. (Pennsylvania System of School Assessment) is a series of assessments designed to provide information about the quality of schools to parents, school districts, and the general public. Mathematics, Reading and Writing are currently assessed on the P.S.S.A., and in 2008 the P.S.S.A. will add an operational Science Assessment. In preparation for the new Science assessment, a P.S.S.A. Science Field Test will be administered in 2007. The information obtained from the 2007 Science Field Test will be used to select items for future state assessments. Although no data from this field test will be returned to parents, school, or districts. The students who participate in the Science Field Test are "testing the items" for future assessment consideration. This assessment will also provide students with practice in the types of tasks that comprise the Science assessment. Students in grades 4, 8, and

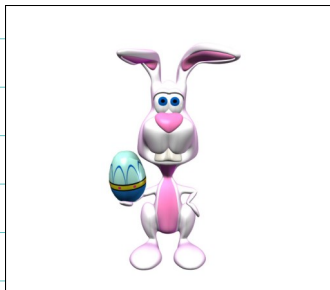
11 in all 501 school districts will take the Science Field Test Assessment. The assessment will take approximately 1.5 hours and will be scheduled during the testing window of April 23, 2007 through May 4, 2007. The Science Field Test will consist of two types of testing items: (1) multiple-choice and (2) open-ended questions. At grade 8 and 11, the field test will also include Science scenarios. A Science scenario contains, text, graphics, charts, and/or tables, and uses these elements to describe the results of a class project, an experiment, or other similar research. The P.S.S.A. Science Field Test addresses the four major Science reporting categories: (1) The Nature of Science, (2) Biological Sciences, (3) Physical Sciences, and (4) Earth and Space Sciences. The testing window for the 2008 P.S.S.A. Science Assessment will be from April

28, 2008 through May 9, 2008 for grade 4, 8, and 11. If you would like more information about the P.S.S.A., please visit the Pennsylvania Department of Education website.

Quote of the month

"Success is not permanent and failure is not final! So, never stop working after success and never stop trying after failure!"

(Author Unknown)



Happy Easter

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Points of Interest:

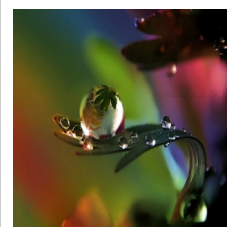
- ✓ - Absent from school? Check out the teacher lesson plans by logging into the Logic House Parent Portal.
- ✓ - Excuses are due the day students return to school. A grace period of three days is allowed before becoming illegal.
- ✓ - Bullying information can be found at: <http://www.bbsd.com/bullying>

Contact Mr. Smith

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Webpage - <http://www.bbsd.com/ms/faculty/marksmith>



Important Upcoming Events

The following are a listing of important dates to remember:

April 6, 2007 - Good Friday.

April 8, 2007 - Happy Easter to everyone!

April 11, 2007 - Eighth grade Career Fair at Seven Springs Mountain Resort.

April 19, 2007 - End of the Fifth Sixth Week Grading Period.

April 23 through May 4, 2007 - P.S.S.A. Science Field Testing for

eighth grade.

April 8, 2007 - Happy Easter!

May 10, 2007 - Sixth Six Week Grading Mid-Term.

May 13, 2007 - Happy Mother's Day. Thank you mom for everything!

May 24, 2007 - Middle School Awards Day (10:00)/N.J.H.S. Honor Banquet (6:30)

May 25, 2007 - Staff vs. 8th Grade Basketball Game.

May 26, 2007 - Middle School End-of-Year Dance (6:30 - 9:00)

May 30, 2007 - Middle School Carnival and Field Day.

June 1, 2007 - Last student day for the 2006 - 2007 school year.

June 14, 2007 - Flag day. Display the American flag proudly.

June 17, 2007 - Happy Father's Day. Thank you dad for everything!

