

# HAZLETON AREA HIGH SCHOOL

## Parent/Guardian 'OPT-OUT' Procedure for Keystone Exam Testing

### **BIOLOGY ONLY**

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Section 4.4 of Title 22, Chapter 4 provides for the right of any parents or guardians to excuse their child 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 parent or guardian to excuse his or her child from the statewide assessments.

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1. *Two weeks prior to the testing window, Hazleton Area High School (HAHS), Hazleton Area Career Center (HACC) and the Hazleton Area Academy of Sciences (HAAS), will make the Keystone Exam available for review by parents and guardians.*

**The exam MUST be reviewed at the Hazleton Area High School (HAHS) building and district personnel must be present during that time.** Review of this material may take place daily (Monday – Friday) between the hours of **9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.** (or by appointment). Proper security and confidentiality of the exam must be maintained at all times.

2. *Parents and guardians MUST sign the Parent Confidentiality Agreement.*

A copy of this agreement will be kept at the Hazleton Area High School for a three year time period. Parents and guardians may not photocopy, write down, or in any other manner record any portion of the exams, including directions. If after reviewing the test parents/guardians find the test to be in conflict with their religious beliefs and wish their student(s) to be excused from the test, the parents/guardians must provide a written request that states the objection to the Superintendent of Schools. If a student from Hazleton Area High School (HAHS), Hazleton Area Career Center (HACC), or Hazleton Area Academy of Sciences (HAAS) is excused from the state assessment due to parental or guardian request, school personnel must provide an alternative learning environment for the student during the assessment and complete the “Non-Assessed Students” grid by selecting “Student had a parental request for exclusion from the assessment.”

3. *Parents/Guardians will be permitted to review the Keystone Exam in the presence of the School Assessment Coordinator or his/her designee.*

Please call (570)459-3221, Ext. 81500 in order to schedule an appointment.

4. *If after reviewing the test parents/guardians find the test to be in conflict with their religious beliefs and wish their student(s) to be excused from the test, the parents/guardians must provide a written request that states the objection to Mr. Brian Uplinger, Superintendent.*

**The 2019-2020 Winter Keystone Exams Testing window begins on Wednesday, November 27, 2019. Test can be viewed 2 weeks prior to that date. Opt out requests will not be honored after December 11, 2019**