



WARREN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
6820 MARKET STREET
RUSSELL PA 16345-3406

AMY J. STEWART
SUPERINTENDENT

GRADUATION PATHWAYS INFORMATIONAL LETTER

CLASS OF 2023 AND BEYOND

Act 158 of 2018 (Act 158) provides alternatives to Pennsylvania's statewide requirement of attaining proficiency on the three end-of-course Keystone Exams (Algebra I, Literature, and Biology) in order for a student to achieve statewide graduation requirements. This letter and attached document is designed to provide guidance as a result of the enactments of Act 158 and Act 6 of 2017 (Act 6), which established alternative pathways to meeting statewide graduation requirements for students who are Career and Technical Education (CTE) concentrators.

Effective with the graduating class of 2023, students have the option to demonstrate postsecondary preparedness through one of five pathways that more fully illustrate college, career, and community readiness. Keystone Exams will continue as the statewide assessment Pennsylvania uses to comply with accountability requirements set forth in the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Although students will no longer be required to achieve proficiency on the Keystone Exams in order to meet statewide graduation requirements, students must take the Keystone Exams for purposes of federal accountability. Failure to do so will affect a Local Education Agency (LEA) and school's participation rate.

The five graduation pathways include the following: (1) Keystone Proficiency; (2) Keystone Composite; (3) Alternate Assessment; (4) Evidence-Based; (5): Career and Technical.

Furthermore, students who opted out of one or more Keystone Exams will have eliminated their opportunity to graduate through the Keystone Proficiency and the Keystone Composite Pathways. A student must still meet state and local graduation requirements through one of three pathways: Alternative Assessment, Evidence-Based or the Career and Technical.

To determine viable pathways options for students, school personnel should be meeting with students to review Keystone Exam scores and identify a pathway consistent with the students' goals and career plans, define the steps to meet pathway requirements, and monitor progress toward completion

Attached is a description of each of the five graduation pathways that go into effect with the graduating class of 2023 and beyond.

The Warren County School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs, activities or employment practices and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Inquiries may be directed to Mr. Gary Weber, Title IX/Section 504 Coordinator at 6820 Market Street, Russell, PA 16345 or (814) 723-6900.