

# Wyalusing Students Excel in State Testing

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The PA Department of Education has released student results on the PA System of School Assessment (PSSA) tests and the Keystone Exams for the 2021-2022 school year as well.

Every student in grades three through eight takes the English language arts (ELA) and math PSSA tests. Students in grades four and eight take the PSSA science test.

The three Keystone Exams— on literature, math and biology— are given to students in 11th grade.

Students are graded on four levels for each of these exams— advanced, proficient, basic and below basic.

## Wyalusing Valley Elementary

For the Wyalusing Valley Elementary School, a total of 49.2 percent of students who took the PSSA ELA test scored at the advanced and proficient levels.

The statewide average was 54.1 percent.

On the mathematics exam, 43.5 percent of students at the elementary school scored at the advanced and proficient levels.

The statewide average was 35.7 percent.

For the science exam, 71.8 percent of the fourth-grade class scored at the advanced and proficient level.

The statewide average was 54.4 percent.

## Wyalusing Valley High School

At Wyalusing Valley High School, a total of 67.2 percent of students who took the ELA exam scored at the advanced and proficient levels.

The statewide average was 54.1 percent.

On the math test, a total of 25.8 percent of high school students scored at the advanced and proficient level.

The statewide average was 35.7 percent.

On the science exam, a total of 55.1 percent of eighth-grade students scored at the advanced and proficient levels.

The statewide average was 54.4 percent.

## Keystone Exams

The Keystone Exam data for WVHS is as follows:

—Seventy-four students took the math exam with a total of 46 percent scoring at the advanced and proficient levels.

—Fifty-three students took the biology exam with a total of 49.1 scoring at the advanced and proficient levels.

—Seventy-six students took the literature exam with a total of 76.3 percent scoring at the advanced and proficient levels.

## District Response

Wyalusing Area School District Dr. Jason Bottiglieri noted that both elementary and high school students showed impressive growth with their recent test scores.

For the high school, there was positive growth of 86 percent on the ELA tests, 72 percent on the math and 99.5 percent on the science exams.

“(This) is consistent with the state standard or in the cases of ELA and science, students demonstrated growth well beyond the state standard,” he said.

On the elementary side, students there showed positive growth of 71 percent on the ELA test, 100 percent on the math exam and 76 percent on the science test.

“(This) is consistent with the state standard, or in the case of math, students demonstrated growth well beyond the state standard,” he said.

On the school building level scores, these showed that WVHS performed as the top high school in the region, and WVES performed above five other area elementary schools, “just a few points shy of the top shot in the region,” according to Bottiglieri.

“The district continues to provide and support programs focused on fostering student academic growth including curriculum enhancements, such as the afterschool and summer tutoring programs, multiple graduation pathways, and college and career readiness opportunities and experiences that prepare students for their postsecondary interests,” he stated. “A special thanks to our dedicated teachers and support staff for their continuous pursuit for academic rigor and the many parents and guardians who support continuity of education in their home during the after-school time and on weekends. Everyone plays a strong role in supporting a child’s education.”