



UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

"Home of the Golden Knights and Damsels"

354 Baker Street
Suite 1

Ms. Kris W. Glosser -Principal
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December 2, 2020

Dear Student, Parents, and Guardians,

There have been recent changes in the requirements to take Keystone Exams from last school year, 2019-2020. Governor Wolf signed Senate Bill 1216 on November 25, 2020, which is now Act 136. Act 136 indicates the following information in regards to testing:

"For the 2019-2020 school year and any subsequent year in which the federal government has waived the testing requirements... any student who completed a course in an academic content area associated with a Keystone Exam shall not be required to take the Keystone Exam related to that course and shall be deemed proficient...provided that the student demonstrates successful completion of locally established, grade based requirements for the academic content areas associated with each content area exam."

This new law means that all students who missed the end-of-course exams in Algebra 1, Biology, or 10th Grade Literature last spring, will receive a proficient-level score on those exams if they passed the respective course(s) in those areas. As a result, Winter Keystone Exams scheduled for these students next week have been cancelled.

This change currently only pertains to exams missed during last school year, 2019-2020. At this point, students who did not yet earn a passing grade in a course associated with a Keystone Exam will still take that content exam after taking the respective course. In addition, students who have taken Algebra 1, Biology and/or 10th Grade Literature prior to the 2019-2020 school year and did not earn a proficient score or higher still need to take the Keystone Exam. To help prepare retesting students, the remediation classes that were developed earlier this year are still being held. These exams are tentatively scheduled for January 2021, see the dates listed below.

Algebra 1: January 26, 2021
Literature: January 27, 2021
Biology: January 28, 2021

The district will continue to update parents and guardians of any further changes that are made regarding this matter in the future. I appreciate your attention to this matter. If you have further questions about the Winter Keystone Exams, please contact me at 814-473-3121 Ext. 0.

Sincerely,

Kris Glosser
Principal