

Professional Opportunity

We are always looking for educators to join the PDE team for committee work. Eligible committee members must have at least five years classroom experience, content expertise, and a desire to ensure a valid and reliable assessment. Balanced representation is always a goal to help ensure the validity of test items. PSSA and Keystone Committees include:

Range Finding	Item Review
Data Review	Bias Review

If interested, please visit the following link to apply.

<http://www.cvent.com/surveys>

Did You Know?

PA educators will participate in Standards Validation the second week of June. The purpose of the standards validation process is to determine whether the current ELA performance level descriptors and cut scores accurately represent the revised content blueprint created for the shortened PSSA assessments.

Question & Answer

Q: What is the status of the Performance Based Assessments (PBAs)?

A: The implementation of the 2017 School Code Act 55 delays the use of the Keystone Exams, and therefore the Project Based Assessments (PBA), as state graduation requirements until 2019-20. For schools that have submitted PBAs for evaluation, PDE will be assigning trained evaluators to score projects submitted online through the PBA portal. Please note the following:

- Evaluations will occur for all Algebra I, Biology, and Literature projects for those students graduating in the **class of 2020 or beyond** via the prescribed protocol: All projects will receive two evaluations. A third evaluator will evaluate the project if the two evaluations are not in agreement. Projects received prior to May 31, 2018, will be evaluated, with results posted in the PBA portal no later than June 30, 2018.
- For students **graduating in 2019**, projects received by December 8, 2017, will be evaluated by one PDE designated evaluator. Upon completion of the evaluations, notification will be available in the PBA portal. The results of those evaluations should be available no later than June 30, 2018. LEAs will be responsible to score projects completed by 2019 graduates submitted after May 31, 2018.
- Per guidance released prior to the changes to the School Code, all PBAs submitted for students graduating in the **class of 2018** are to be evaluated at the local level.

TDA Cadre of Experts



TDA Cadre of Experts were busy analyzing student work with the TDA Learning Progressions. The Cadre of Experts consists of IU facilitators from across the state. The Cadre stands ready to facilitate professional learning around the components of text dependent analysis instruction. Stay alert for TDA trainings offered by your local IU and additional TDA resources from PDE.



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Our monthly ELA Assessment eBlast will focus on providing the following: insight around standardized assessment, professional learning for ELA classroom instruction and assessment, professional opportunities, and a question/answer section.

Email questions to:

dsimaska@pa.gov

rbaumleama@pa.gov

BULLYING PREVENTION CONSULTATION LINE

The Bullying Prevention Consultation Line is a toll-free number that allows individuals experiencing chronic and unresolved bullying to discuss effective strategies and available resources to deal with school-based bullying. This resource was developed in collaboration with the Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention (CHPDP), and is available, at no cost, to students, parents/guardians, and school districts across the state of Pennsylvania. Messages can be left 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and will be returned Monday-Friday during normal business hours. The Consultation Line is **1-866-716-0424**.

[PA Bullying Prevention Consultation Line Video](#)

[PA Bullying Prevention Consultation Line Poster \(PDF\)](#)

Look who stopped in and visited during our Cadre of Experts training!!

