

# Wilkes-Barre Area School District

730 SOUTH MAIN STREET WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA 18711-0375

SUPERINTENDENT: (570) 826-7111 Ext. 1148 FAX: (570) 819-5010

BOARD SECRETARY: (570) 826-7111 Ext. 1162 FAX: (570) 819-5011



Joseph A Caffrey, President  
Denise T. Thomas, Vice President  
Dr. Brian J. Costello, Superintendent  
Thomas F. Telesz, Board Secretary/Business Administrator

#### Members of the Board

Mark Atherton	John R. Quinn
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Joseph A. Caffrey	Denise T. Thomas
Ned J. Evans	Rev. Shawn Walker
Beth Anne Harris	



## Notice of Opportunity Scholarships

### Please Read: Important Information Affecting Your Child

April 12, 2022

Dear Heights/Murray Elementary School Parent or Guardian,

We would like to make you aware of the choices available to you based on the results of your child's school on the 2020-2021 Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) and/or Keystone Exams. The PSSA and Keystones are annual exams given to Pennsylvania students at various grade levels to measure their academic progress.

The Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit Program (OSTCP) was created pursuant to Act 85 of 2012 (72 P.S. § 1701-G.1, *et seq*) and amended by Act 86 of 2016 (24 P.S. § 2001-B, *et seq*). This program enables eligible students residing within the boundaries of low-achieving schools to apply for a scholarship to attend another public or nonpublic school. A low achieving school is defined as a public elementary or secondary school ranking in the bottom 15% of their designation as elementary or secondary school based on the combined math and reading scores on the previous school year PSSA.

Heights/Murray Elementary School is on the list of the bottom 15% for performance on the combined Math and Reading tests on the 2020-2021 PSSA and/or Keystone exams.

Under the OSTCP program, Heights/Murray Elementary School must offer students the choice to transfer to another school district or nonpublic school. Please know that the staff at Heights/Murray Elementary School has a relationship with your child and wants to continue serving your child. However, if you feel your child will be better served in another school, you may request a transfer for your child to one of the schools participating in the OSTCP.

If you wish to take advantage of this opportunity for your child to attend another school, you must go to the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) website [www.dced.pa.gov/programs/opportunity-scholarship-tax-credit-program-ostc](http://www.dced.pa.gov/programs/opportunity-scholarship-tax-credit-program-ostc)

You can review the list of scholarship organizations for the school districts and nonpublic schools that are participating in this program. DCED has information regarding the application process. Scholarships are contingent upon available funding.

Additional information is available on our school district website [www.wbasd.k12.pa.us](http://www.wbasd.k12.pa.us) and the PA Department of Education website <http://www.education.pa.gov/K-12/Opportunity%20Scholarship%20Tax%20Credit%20Program/Pages/default.aspx#tab-1>

Sincerely,

Mr. Aidan McKenna  
PRINCIPAL

#### Notice of Non-Discrimination

The Wilkes-Barre Area School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:  
The Wilkes-Barre Area School District Superintendent, 730 South Main Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA 18711-0375, 570-826-7111

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## Aviso de Oportunidad Becas

### Por favor lea: Información importante que afecta a su hijo

abril 12, 2022

Estimado padre o tutor de la escuela primaria Heights/Murray,

Nos gustaría informarle sobre las opciones disponibles para usted en función de los resultados de la escuela de su hijo en el Sistema de Evaluación Escolar de Pensilvania (PSSA) 2020-2021 y / o los exámenes Keystone. La PSSA y Keystones son exámenes anuales que se otorgan a los estudiantes de Pensilvania en varios niveles de grado para medir su progreso académico.

El Programa de Crédito Tributario de Becas de Oportunidad (OSTCP) fue creado de conformidad con la Ley 85 de 2012 (72 P.S. § 1701-G.1, *et seq*) y enmendado por la Ley 86 de 2016 (24 P.S. § 2001-B, *et seq*). Este programa permite a los estudiantes elegibles que residen dentro de los límites de las escuelas de bajo rendimiento solicitar una beca para asistir a otra escuela pública o no pública. Una escuela de bajo rendimiento se define como una escuela primaria o secundaria pública clasificada en el 15% inferior de su designación como primaria de la escuela secundaria basada en los puntajes combinados de matemáticas y lectura en el año escolar anterior PSSA.

La Escuela Primaria Heights / Murray está en la lista del 15% inferior para el rendimiento en las pruebas combinadas de Matemáticas y Lectura en los exámenes PSSA y / o Keystone 2020-2021.

Bajo el programa OSTCP, la Escuela Primaria Heights/Murray debe ofrecer a los estudiantes la opción de transferirse a otro distrito escolar o escuela no pública. Tenga en cuenta que el personal de la Escuela Primaria Heights/Murray tiene una relación con su hijo y quiere continuar sirviendo a su hijo. Sin embargo, si cree que su hijo será mejor atendido en otra escuela, puede solicitar una transferencia para su hijo a una de las escuelas que participan en el OSTCP.

Si desea aprovechar esta oportunidad para que su hijo asista a otra escuela, debe ir al sitio web del Departamento de Desarrollo Comunitario y Económico (DCED) [www.dced.pa.gov/programs/opportunity-scholarship-tax-credit-program-ostc](http://www.dced.pa.gov/programs/opportunity-scholarship-tax-credit-program-ostc)

Puede revisar la lista de organizaciones de becas para los distritos escolares y las escuelas no públicas que participan en este programa. DCED tiene información sobre el proceso de solicitud. Las becas dependen de los fondos disponibles.

Información adicional está disponible en nuestro sitio web del distrito escolar [www.wbasd.k12.pa.us](http://www.wbasd.k12.pa.us) y en el sitio web del Departamento de Educación de PA <http://www.education.pa.gov/K-12/Opportunity%20Scholarship%20Tax%20Credit%20Program/Pages/default.aspx#tab-1>

Sinceramente

Mr. Aidan McKenna  
PRINCIPAL