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## Keystone Oaks School District Releases Pennsylvania School Performance Profile for 2013-2014 Academic Year

*Scores increase in four district buildings, with the largest increases at Myrtle Avenue Elementary School and Keystone Oaks High School*

**PITTSBURGH, PA** – Keystone Oaks School District has released its new School Performance Profile that provides a school-level academic score for each district building. The School Performance Profile reflects academic and assessment data that was collected during the 2013-2014 school year. Four of the District's five buildings have seen increases in their School Performance Profile score, with Myrtle Elementary School seeing a 10 point increase and Keystone Oaks High School seeing a 7 point increase over scores for the 2012-2013 school year. The SPP scores for Myrtle Elementary and KO High School are 86.3 and 78.2, respectively.

"I am very proud of the teachers and staff at Myrtle Elementary School. Their willingness to implement effective teaching strategies, including concern and respect for students and student learning, appropriate assessment and feedback, setting clear goals and intellectual challenges and in-depth analysis of data have proven that a hardworking and dedicated teaching staff can make a big difference in student growth and performance," said Myrtle Elementary Principal, Mr. Joe Arcuri.

The School Performance Profile scores are the result of a number of tools used to measure academic growth and achievement, including:

- The **Pennsylvania Value-Added Assessment System (PVAAS)**, which measures student growth from one academic year to the next.
- The **Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA)**, which measures achievement at a given point in time (test day) and compares test scores to a set of standards
- SAT and ACT exam scores
- Attendance and graduation rates
- Participation in Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate and college-level courses

This new data-driven tool, first released in the fall of 2013 for the 2012-2013 academic year, allows the Keystone Oaks community to obtain a more accurate picture of the district's academic strengths. It also allows educators to make data-informed instructional decisions to ensure the academic growth and achievement of all students.

"Our School Performance Profile reflects the consistent efforts of our teachers, administrators, Board members, and families to improve education in the District," said Keystone Oaks Assistant Superintendent Kathleen Foster, Ed.D. "Aligning curriculum to PA Core Standards, updating instructional materials and technology, increasing professional development opportunities for staff, and addressing student needs for both remediation and enrichment all contribute to the growth shown on our SPP. We share pride in the accomplishments of our students and will continue to focus on academic growth and achievement," Dr. Foster added.

Keystone Oaks Superintendent Dr. William Stropkaj adds that he is proud of the improvements the district has made over the past two years.

"I am very pleased with the results of each school's School Performance Profile. Our efforts to meet the needs of all students by focusing on the instruction and learning in each and every classroom has been a goal of mine since I first arrived in July 2012," Dr. Stropkaj said.

"We formed building-level instructional teams who have been working with their respective staffs over the past two years to present the research on the impact that good instruction has on student achievement and how we can better create engaging learning environments in every classroom throughout the District. Setting goals and having high expectations for everyone is showing in our student achievement. We are moving in the right direction and are taking the District from being good to being great," he added.

To view building-level School Performance Profile scores for Keystone Oaks School District, please visit [paschoolperformance.org](http://paschoolperformance.org).

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