



Upper Dauphin Area School District

5668 State Route 209, Lykens, Pennsylvania 17048-8414

Phone: 717-362-8134 Fax: 717-362-3050



Jared W. Shade
Superintendent
717-362-8134
shadej@udasd.org

Amie Savidge
Business Manager
& Board Secretary
717-362-6547
savidgea@udasd.org

Heather Haupt
Special Education &
Student Services Director
717-362-6573
haupt@udasd.org

Nicole Czaplicki
Elementary School Principal
717-362-4511
czaplickin@udasd.org

Emily Wevodau
Middle School Principal
717-362-8177
wevodaue@udasd.org

Abbey Walshaw-Wertz
High School Principal
717-362-8181
walshawwertza@udasd.org

Notice of Opportunity Scholarships

February 18, 2026

Dear 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 2026-2027 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.

Upper Dauphin Area High School is on the list of the bottom 15% for performance on the combined Math and Reading tests on the 2026-2027 PSSA and/or Keystone exams.

Under the OSTCP program, Upper Dauphin Area High School must offer students the choice to transfer to another school district or nonpublic school. Please know that the UDA staff 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](#). 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 the [PA Department of Education website](#).

Sincerely,

Abbey Walshaw-Wertz
High School Principal