



Vision: 100% Student Success

Mission: "Educate and prepare each student for college, career and life."

August 24, 2020

Dear Parent & Student,

On behalf of Pinellas County Schools, I would like to announce that the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) will be administered to every 9th and 10th grade student on in Pinellas County Schools according to the following schedule.

- Traditional School 10th graders will test on Wednesday, October 14 during the school day.
• Traditional School 9th graders will test on Thursday, October 29 during the school day.
• MyPCS online and Pinellas Virtual School students will test on Saturday, October 17.

The PSAT/NMSQT evaluates the skills each student has developed in mathematics and evidence-based reading and writing; and provides the tools a student needs to reach his or her college goals. Because the PSAT/NMSQT evaluates the same skills as the SAT, taking this assessment is an effective way for a student to start getting ready for the SAT. Additionally, the PSAT/NMSQT gives each student personalized feedback about their academic strengths and weaknesses, helping each student to prepare for success in college and careers. This assessment can also be used to fulfill the FL Algebra 1 EOC graduation requirement.

Every student who takes the PSAT/NMSQT is given access to multiple online resources that provide personalized SAT preparation, as well as college and career planning tools – all at no cost to the student or their family. These resources include:

- A PSAT/NMSQT score report that includes answers with detailed explanations.
• A personalized SAT study plan when the student links their PSAT results to the Khan Academy SAT Prep site.
• A personalized list of colleges to consider based on the student's home state and intended major.
• A report that shows the Advanced Placement courses in which the student shows the opportunity to be successful.

Every student can benefit from participation in this assessment in 9th and 10th grade by performing stronger on the assessment in 11th grade and eventually the SAT. Students who take the PSAT/NMSQT in 11th grade may be eligible to enter competitions for college scholarships and other academic recognition programs. Additional information regarding these programs will be provided to you during the spring of the 10th grade year in preparation for the upcoming test in the fall of the 11th grade year.

Parents, we appreciate your support of this assessment as your student continues on their journey through high school and beyond.

Students, we hope you will put forth your best effort on test day, to allow us to support your unique needs on your journey toward college and career success.

Respectfully,

Judith Vigue, Director-Advanced Studies & Academic Excellence

If you want your child to take the PSAT/NMSQT, there is nothing to do. You do not have to return the form.

If you do not want your child to take the PSAT/NMSQT, please complete the form below and return it to your child's school counselor:

I do not want my child to take the PSAT/NMSQT.

Student Name: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

School: _____

The School Board of Pinellas County, Florida, prohibits any and all forms of discrimination and harassment based on race, color, sex, religion, national origin, marital status, age, sexual orientation or disability in any of its programs, services or activities.

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

301 Fourth St. SW
P.O. Box 2942
Largo, FL 33779-2942
Ph. (727) 588-6000

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