



**Vision:**  
100% Student Success

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

August 24, 2020

Dear Parent & Student,

**You can earn academic recognition and possibly scholarship opportunities** if you achieve an outstanding score on the 2020 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT). Pinellas County Schools is proud to provide the opportunity for you to sit for the PSAT/NMSQT at no cost.

If your tenth grade PSAT results are better than average and/or the comparison between your unweighted and weighted grade point averages is substantial, you could earn a score worthy of recognition or scholarship when you take the PSAT/NMSQT as a junior. To learn more about the scholarship opportunities, refer to our additional handout.

### **About the PSAT/NMSQT**

**The Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test is a program co-sponsored by the College Board and National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC). It is a standardized test that provides firsthand practice for the SAT. It also gives 11<sup>th</sup> grade students a chance to enter NMSC scholarship programs, be identified and invited to apply for other scholarship opportunities, and gain access to college and career planning tools.**

The PSAT/NMSQT measures evidence-based reading and writing skills, math skills, and problem-solving skills. You have developed these skills over many years, both in and out of school. This test does **not** require you to recall specific facts from your classes.

The most common reasons for taking the PSAT/NMSQT are to:

- Receive feedback on your strengths and the skills you need to develop further in order to be prepared for college study, which allows you to focus your preparation on areas that could most benefit from intentional and targeted practice.
- Gain access to personalized SAT Prep through Khan Academy's SATpractice.org at no cost. Your PSAT results can be linked to their SATpractice.org platform so that you can login to receive practice that is tailored to your areas of need.
- See how your performance on an admissions test might compare with that of others applying to college. Enter the competition for scholarships from National Merit Scholarship Corporation and the Telluride Association, as well as many others.
- Become familiar with the kinds of questions and the exact directions you will see on the SAT.
- **Receive information from colleges when you check "yes" to Student Search Services.**

To register please go to [office.com](http://office.com) and login using your school email address (i.e. R2.D2@pcsb.org) and password and then click [HERE](#) to complete the registration. *Deadline to register is September 13th.*

Sincerely,

Judith Vigue  
Director, Advanced Studies & Academic Excellence

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

**SCHOOL BOARD OF  
PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA**  
Chairperson  
Carol J. Cook

Vice Chairperson  
Eileen M. Long

Lisa N. Cane  
Nicole M. Carr, Ph.D.  
Bill Dudley  
Rene Flowers  
Joanne Lentino

Superintendent  
Michael A. Grego, Ed.D.