

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS OF FRESHMAN, SOPHOMORES AND JUNIORS

Dear Parents and Students, On Wednesday, October 10, 2018, freshman will take the PSAT 8/9 and sophomores and juniors will take the PSAT/NMSQT® at our HSA Campus.

Taking the PSAT 8/9 or PSAT/NMSQT® can encourage a student to start thinking seriously about life after high school, about college and career goals, and about the education needed to reach those goals.

The PSAT has been designed to mirror the SAT®.

Students can prepare for this exam by reviewing the information on the PSAT 8/9 - PSAT/NMSQT® Student Guide that will be sent home with students prior to testing.

There is additional practice available at: <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org>.

Participation in the PSAT is an important step in preparing for college. The College Board has partnered with Khan Academy® to provide free SAT online practice. The customized test preparation will offer skill based videos and practice SAT questions to support students who have taken the PSAT.

When students get their score report, they can connect their College Board and Khan Academy accounts to get free personalized learning plans based on test performance.

Taking the PSAT provides the following advantages to students:

- It measures the reading, math, and writing skills needed for college and career planning. After the test, students will receive a score report that will highlight opportunities to strengthen academic skills. Students can use the score report to show strengths and weaknesses pertaining to college readiness.
- Prepares students for taking the SAT.
- The Student Search Service® gives PSAT test takers the option to voluntarily place their names and addresses in a pool of college-bound students interested in receiving admission and financial aid information from certified colleges, universities and scholarship agencies.
- Provides practice recommendations from Khan Academy.
- Juniors who score well may qualify for National Merit Recognition and Scholarships.
- It provides valuable information to parents and students on student potential for advanced academics in high school.
- PSAT Scores will one of the main tests used to determine a student's eligibility to take upper level courses (Pre-AP/AP). Counselors will meet with your child in the second semester to update your child's course selection for the next school year.

Score Reports will be distributed by February, 2019 at all Harmony Public Schools. Along with the score reports, PSAT test takers will receive a unique access code to gain access to an online score reporting portal. Scores will be available to view on the students College board account in December.

From there students have access to all the college and career exploration programs available on College Board.

Every Harmony freshman, sophomore and junior is automatically registered to participate in the PSAT at their home campus on Wednesday, October 10, 2018.

There will not be make-up testing for students who miss the October 10th test date.

### **What should students bring on test day?**

- No. 2 pencils and eraser
- Approved calculator (four function, scientific, or graphing calculators – may not share calculators)
- Email address (optional)
- Current and valid school/government issued photo ID