

TEANECK BOARD OF EDUCATION SCHOOL COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

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PSAT Test Information

Dear Parents/Guardians of Teaneck High School Juniors,

Welcome to the 2020-2021 school year at Teaneck High School. While this is not how we typically embark on the start of the school year, please know that the School Counseling Department stands ready to support your child in his/her post-secondary planning during the upcoming year.

Though the PSAT/NMSQT (Preliminary School Aptitude Test/National Merit School Qualification Test) is typically offered during the month of October, College Board has allowed schools to offer a January 26, 2021 test date. For the 2020-2021 school year, the PSAT/NMSQT will be <u>offered to 11th graders</u> only on Tuesday, January 26, 2021, at no cost. Please note, this is a tentative date due to the fluidity of the pandemic.

In an effort to gain an understanding of interest to take the PSAT, please complete the following survey by **Friday**, **October 30**, **2020**. Completing this survey will help us plan accordingly (i.e. test ordering, identify room locations, secure test proctors, plan procedures in accordance with safety and health guidelines, etc). In order to complete the survey, click <u>HERE</u>.

While many colleges and universities are adopting test-optional admissions policies for the upcoming year due to the pandemic's impact on being able to host ACT and SAT tests for students, it remains to be seen what the long term impacts will be. Many students may face the requirement of assessment(s) pertaining to their specific post-secondary plans. The PSAT/NMSQT serves as an opportunity to enable students to practice critical reading, mathematical reasoning and writing skills needed for success in college and career. The PSAT/NMSQT also serves as the opportunity to qualify for the National Merit Scholarship Program for 11th grade students who score within the eligible ranges.

Students and parents will receive additional communication prior to the test date with detailed information on registering for the PSAT, safety requirements, procedures for entering and exiting the building, as well as test security requirements as outlined by College Board.

If you have additional questions, please contact your child's School Counselor or visit <u>College Board's</u> <u>PSAT/NMSQT website</u> for more information, including practice test and sample questions. For more details about entry to the 2022 National Merit Scholarship Program, please refer to the <u>PSAT/NMSQT Student</u> <u>Guide</u> or visit <u>www.nationalmerit.org</u>.

Kind regards, Keshia Golding-Cooper