



September 9, 2020

Groves Families,

Below are some updates regarding state-mandated testing. Due to the coronavirus pandemic and the postponement of Spring 2020 testing, testing will take place this fall. Please see dates below.

The counseling department sent an email to all parents last week asking whether or not students are going to opt to take standardized tests this fall in-person. We would like you to complete the form as a "yes" or "no" to reserve a seat for your student for their grade-level SAT or PSAT date. Dr. Smith also sent a follow-up email to all students using their BPS-schools Gmail account.

All seniors will have the opportunity to take the SAT with Essay (they must take all portions of the exam – including the essay) on September 23 free of charge. Although many colleges have changed their admissions requirements to “test-optional” (meaning you do not have to submit an ACT or SAT score), we ask parents to talk to their student to see if testing is the right decision for them. For updates regarding test- optional schools and changes to admission policies, please refer to the links below.

For 9th, 10th and 11th graders, these are optional; practice (PSAT) college entrance exams that are being offered in-person on campus. There will be another practice exam offered in April, 2021 too. Please note, students in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade taking PSAT/NMSQT will be participating in the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test, whereas the 10<sup>th</sup> grade students will be using this exam as a practice for future college entrance exams. There will be another practice exam offered in April 2021 too. **The exams are identical.**

We understand that some families will opt out of these assessments for various reasons, some of which are health-related. In an effort to plan for testing materials, staffing, and bussing (if needed), we have asked your student to complete the form that was emailed by Mr. Hurns to secure their seat by the deadline stated below. We will be following the governor's state-mandated safety restrictions. Students will need to wear a mask when in the building and complete the district health screen prior to entering on test day. Social distancing will be enforced. Students who have confirmed their seat will receive follow up instructions. **Make-up testing will not be available.**

**Confirmation/Test Registration Links:**

## Freshmen

<https://forms.gle/zUWEKwPnCnP3cFL9>

## Sophomores

<https://forms.gle/2HVnA2FN2hPzNC6r8>

## Juniors

<https://forms.gle/nCaMUEgcYNG6AuKq9>

## Seniors

<https://forms.gle/FMkcWnLF5hSk2TKf6>

**Here is a resource students can access for free to practice prior to taking the SAT/PSAT:**

<https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/practice/khan-academy>

GRADE	TEST	TESTING DATE	<b>DEADLINE FOR RESERVING SEAT USING THE GOOGLE FORM</b>
12	SAT <u>W/ESSAY</u>	SEPT 23	SEPTEMBER 11
11	PSAT/NMSQT	OCT 14	SEPTEMBER 14
10	PSAT/NMSQT	OCT 29	SEPTEMBER 11
9	PSAT 8/9	OCT 1	SEPTEMBER 11

### **TEST- OPTIONAL SCHOOLS**

The National Center for Fair & Open Testing (FairTest) is keeping a database of schools that have moved to test-optional. To learn more, please visit <http://www.fairtest.org/university/optional>

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR COLLEGE ADMISSION COUNSELING (NACAC)** database of changes to college admission and related policies due to the coronavirus crisis.

<https://www.nacacnet.org/news--publications/newsroom/college-admission-status-coronavirus/>

Thank you,

Groves Counselors

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