

Mountain View High School

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Stafford, VA 22556
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Dear Parent or Guardian:

SUBJECT: PSAT/NMSQT® – Free for Stafford County’s 10th & 11th graders

Stafford County Public Schools (SCPS) has selected the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®) offered by The College Board as a universal resource and strategy to achieve the vision, mission, and goals of SCPS to “inspire and empower all learners to learn,” and to “engage, challenge, and prepare every student for success.” **On October 12, 2022, students in grades 10 and 11 in each SCPS high school and across the United States will take the PSAT/NMSQT®.** This test is offered free of charge to all SCPS 10th and 11th grade students. While only students in grade 11 are eligible to compete for National Merit Scholarships, taking the test in earlier grades provides excellent practice for taking the PSAT/NMSQT® in grade 11 and for taking the SAT college entrance assessment.

The purpose of the test is to give all students an opportunity to experience taking a college readiness test and to identify students who might benefit from advanced coursework. The PSAT/NMSQT® provides students and educators with the chance to check in on progress toward college and career readiness and success. It serves as an excellent way for students to preview and practice for the SAT, because they are tightly aligned with the new SAT.

The PSAT/NMSQT® measures critical reading, writing skills, and math problem-solving skills. It assesses a student’s ability to reason with facts and concepts rather than the ability to recall and recite them. The test is a “no penalty” assessment; students receive points for correct answers only. The redesigned PSAT/NMSQT® reports total scores, section scores, test scores, cross-test scores, and sub scores on a common score scale shared by all assessments in the SAT Suite of Assessments.

The PSAT/NMSQT® will give students access to free personalized SAT study. With students’ explicit permission, Khan Academy will use their PSAT/NMSQT® results to create a study plan especially for them.

Taking the PSAT/NMSQT® can also connect students to:

- [Advanced Placement \(AP\) courses](#) & AP Potential
- [Scholarships](#)
- [Colleges/Universities](#)

I encourage you to discuss PSAT/NMSQT® testing with your student. Students may prepare for the test by visiting www.collegeboard.com, getting a good night’s sleep prior to the test, and eating a good breakfast the morning of the test. Your student’s Score Report for the PSAT/NMSQT® will become available at their school and be distributed to students in January. If you would like additional information about the PSAT/NMSQT® and how it will be administered at our school, please contact **Mike Arnold**, arnoldmr@staffordschools.net . If you would like additional information from The College Board, you may sign up for a newsletter at <http://www.collegeboard.com/parents/>. Best wishes to you and your student.

Sincerely,

Stefanie M Sullivan

Stefanie M. Sullivan
Principal



Julie E. Clements
Assistant Principal

Eric R. Cooke
Assistant Principal

Chevonda C. Glass
Assistant Principal

Greg A. Margheim
Assistant Principal
for Athletics/Activities