

Cherry Hill Public Schools  
Cherry Hill High School East  
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[www.cherryhill.k12.nj.us](http://www.cherryhill.k12.nj.us)



September 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian:

On Wednesday, **October 11, 2017**, the New Preliminary SAT (PSAT) will be administered to **10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade students** at High School East. The district is paying for students to take the PSAT. The test familiarizes all students who take it with the requirements for the SAT and provides the district with data on students' performance.

The PSAT will allow students to view their strengths and weaknesses in Mathematics and Evidence-Based Reading and Writing. In addition, all juniors will be entered into the NMSQT (National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test). The NMSQT is the entry vehicle into the National Merit Scholarship Corporation's annual competition for recognition and scholarship. The PSAT data provides the district, as well as the student, with valuable information for helping students in their preparation for the SAT. In addition, the New PSAT assists counselors in making appropriate recommendations into Advanced Placement (AP) and other upper level courses.

Students also receive *My College Quickstart*, which is an online personalized college and career planning tool, as well as access to *MyRoad* – an interactive college, majors and career exploration tool. I strongly encourage students to take advantage of this valuable resource for college and career exploration. When entering their personal information on the day of the test, students may indicate that they would like to have colleges send them information about a variety of programs and college majors. *Colleges will not see the PSAT scores unless a student specifically requests this service.*

**The PSAT is also an alternative graduation exit assessment for the classes of 2016 through 2019. A student can satisfy their graduation exit assessment requirement with a score of 22 or above in both Math and Evidence-Based Reading & Writing.**

Counselors will be addressing sophomore and junior English classes regarding test expectations, preparedness, and the timing and knowledge assessed on the test. Each student will receive a packet that contains a practice test, test strategies, and test format. ***It is imperative that students review the bulletin, get a good night's sleep and eat a healthy breakfast before they arrive for testing.*** Testing will last **approximately 4 hours.** Students will be grouped with their English class. Room assignments will be posted in the classrooms and announced well in advance. Students should bring **two #2 pencils and a calculator,** although no question requires calculator use. A **scientific or graphing calculator** is recommended; however, **the memory must be cleared** from the calculator prior to the test in order to be used. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child's guidance counselor. **All freshmen and seniors are expected to attend school for an early dismissal day. There will be an alternate schedule provided to them. Freshmen and seniors will attend valuable workshop presentations.** All students will have an early dismissal, 11:45 AM. All students are to report to school at their regular time. Lunches will be served.

Sincerely,

Dennis Perry Ed.D.  
Principal