



Dear Lakota East Parent,

On Saturday, October 19, 2019, at 8:00 a.m., the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) will be offered at **Lakota West Main Campus**. The Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) is a vital step toward reaching college goals geared towards sophomores and juniors. The test measures the reading, writing/language and math skills students need for college and a career. After the test, students receive feedback on how ready they are for college along with tools to help them improve. **This administration will be the only option for students to take the PSAT this year, replacing the school day administration from previous years.**

The PSAT assessment serves as a practice SAT, one of the two major college readiness tests used in our country. Juniors taking the assessment will automatically be entered into the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test – a program that can result in scholarship awards for those who perform at very high levels. While 10<sup>th</sup> grade students are not eligible for the National Merit competition, taking the PSAT as a sophomore will help them to be better prepared for the assessment as a junior. It will also give you, your student, and the school, important information about academic areas of strength and weakness.

While the PSAT is geared toward 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade students, we are making the test available to interested 9<sup>th</sup> grade students. We strongly encourage families to seriously consider whether the test is appropriate for their 9<sup>th</sup> grade student. Although taking the PSAT as a 9<sup>th</sup> grade student provides exposure to the test, we have also seen test scores decline due to test fatigue from students that have taken the PSAT three years in a row. This decline in scores could ultimately hinder the opportunity to qualify for National Merit Commended and/or Semifinalist Status when taking the test as an 11<sup>th</sup> grader.

The PSAT is given nationally on October 19<sup>th</sup> and, consequently, your student must be in attendance at the test session to participate. There are no make-ups. Students will be tested at **Lakota West Main Campus**.

The cost of this test is \$17.00. **The deadline for registering for the test is September 13, 2019.** If you are interested in having your student take this test, please complete the registration form and return it to Stacy Lewis in the Counseling Office at East Main Campus or Marsha Valerius in the Main Office at East Freshman Campus. Payment can be made via cash, money order, check – made out to Lakota East High School or via EZPay. Please indicate on the registration form your preferred method of payment. If selecting cash/check, payment must be turned in with the completed registration form. If selecting EZPay, the fee will be posted to your child's EZPay Account within 24 hours of receipt of the registration form. Payment must be completed via EZPAY no later than Tuesday, September 17, 2019.

We are excited about this opportunity and look forward to receiving the results of your child's work. If you have questions about the PSAT, please feel free to contact a guidance counselor, administrator or visit [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org) for additional information as well as practice items.

[Please click here for the PSAT Registration Form](#)