September 2019

We are pleased to announce that the Florida Legislature has again appropriated funds for the administration of the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) to grade 10 public high school students. The test will be given during the school day on October 30, 2019. There will be no alternate date. Testing accommodations may be allowable under the test publisher’s guidelines. An SSD form must be submitted for every student requesting accommodations for the PSAT/NMSWT assessment. Your child’s guidance counselor should be able to aid you in completing the form.

In accordance with section 1007.35(5), Florida Statutes, each public high school shall offer all students enrolled in grade 10 the opportunity to participate in this test free of charge. In addition, each school must provide a written notification to parents/guardians that includes the opportunity to exempt their child from participating. This serves as that notification.

Student assessment data from test results will help us determine student readiness and potential for success in Advanced Placement and other college preparatory courses and identify students who may need additional instruction before enrolling in such courses. Specifically,

* Grade 10 pre-college testing is an indicator of performance on the SAT.
* The PSAT/NMSQT includes reading, writing, language and mathematics components that focus on the knowledge and skills that are most essential for college and career readiness and success;
* It may be used as a diagnostic tool to measure and follow student performance and pinpoint areas for development.

Students taking this test in grade 10 may participate in the National Merit Scholarship program, but in order to enter the National Merit Scholarship Corporation competition, the student **must** take the PSAT/NMSQT again in grade 11.

**Please contact school contact for PSAT NO LATER(October 15th), if you do NOT want your child to participate in this PSAT testing. If I have not heard from you regarding an exemption request by this date, a test will be purchased for your child, and he/she is expected to be at the testing site on**
**October 30th, 2019.**

Thank you in advance for the opportunity to work with your child, as we strive to ensure his/her academic success.

Pace High School