

Dear Parents/Guardians,

On Tuesday, October 17, Juniors will take the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) at Springfield Township High School. There is no cost to you for the test and there are no registration forms for you to complete. For Juniors, the PSAT is the qualifying test for the National Merit Scholarship Competition (NMSQT). Taking the PSAT enables students to get feedback about academic skills, get information from colleges, and prepare for the SAT. Students receive their scores roughly, six weeks after the test along with individualized information about their specific answers on the test.

The National Merit Scholarship Competition is determined by a score, called the Selection Index, on the Junior year PSAT. Based on those scores, Juniors can be named as National Merit Commended Students or as Semifinalists. Those who are named Semifinalists are put through a rigorous screening process to determine if they become National Merit Finalists.

Although some view the PSAT as only a "practice test", we know that doing well on the PSAT can provide students with more opportunities once they begin the college admissions process. Here at the high school, PSAT scores are part of the process in determining student scheduling in Advanced Placement courses. The potential for higher test scores and scholarships is a major part of the PSAT and we ask that you help your child prepare to take the test. PSAT administration has changed to a digital format. On test day, students should arrive with a fully charged chomebook.

Sitting for the PSAT is optional. Parents/Guardians who choose for their child **NOT** to take the PSAT are asked to email Mr. Bill Shearer (bill_shearer@sdst.org). Any student not taking the PSAT is required to attend their normal class schedule.

Eleventh grade Eastern Center students, who attend during the AM session, are expected to report to the high school in the morning to complete the PSAT. Transportation will be provided to eleventh grade students who attend Eastern Center during the PM session. Transportation for both the AM and PM sessions will be provided to seniors who attend Eastern Center. If you have questions, please contact your child's School Counselor.

Sincerely,

Charles E. Rittenhouse, Ed.D.

Principal