

*Dear Parents and Students:*

*Students have received e-mails from College Board regarding their individual scores and score reports for the October PSAT/NMSQT (Please see information below if a student did NOT receive an e-mail from College Board.) As we are all aware, this PSAT was the first implementation for College Board designed with the new model and changes to the SAT. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we all work together while College Board continues to release additional information regarding the new PSAT/NMSQT and score reports.*

*Within the past 24 hours, College Board has posted information and instructional videos on their website. Please take advantage of this information to help you better understand your test results. Below we have outlined information and provided direct links, which are very helpful and will answer many questions you may have about the PSAT/NMSQT. Check the NDP weekly email newsletter for the upcoming "PSAT Coffee Chat" hosted by the Counseling Department.*

*We will be discussing PSAT results with juniors as we have our "college planning family meetings" beginning later this month. Today, in the sophomore class presentation, the Counseling Department introduced students to the College Board site and viewed informational videos about the PSAT. The most current information is on the College Board website and we encourage you to take advantage of their resources: [www.collegeboard.com/psat](http://www.collegeboard.com/psat).*

*Sincerely,*

*NDP Counseling Department*

## **How Do You Access Your Online PSAT/NMSQT Scores and Reports?**

- 1) Find the College Board email that was sent in December that contains your individual access code.
- 2) If you already have a College Board account, log in  
OR  
If you do not have one, create an account at [studentscores.collegeboard.org](http://studentscores.collegeboard.org)
- 3) Once logged in, select PSAT/NMSQT Scores  
OR  
Use "Missing Scores" to locate scores.  
(If you are still being asked for an access code, email your counselor or Tracy Grenoble, [tgrenoble@ndpsaints.org](mailto:tgrenoble@ndpsaints.org)).

## **Understanding the Score Report**

Your score report will include a total score, section scores, test scores, cross-test scores, and subscores - all of which will give you better insight into your performance. Your score report will also include the NMSC Selection Index, which is calculated by doubling the sum of your Reading, Writing and Language, and Math Test scores (which are different from the section scores). NMSC is only applicable for juniors and uses the Selection Index as an initial screen of the large number of entrants to its National Merit Scholarship Program.

There are two sections on the test: Evidence-Based Reading and Writing, and Math. These mirror the redesigned SAT and are on new scales ranging from a 160 to 760 (instead of 200 to 800). These scores are based on percentiles, not total correct answers, so it's important to understand your scores: <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt-psat-10/scores/understanding-scores>.

In case you would like to compare the redesigned score to the old scale, please use this preliminary concordance table: <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/pdf/psat-nmsqt-preliminary-concordance-tables-2015.pdf>.

Here is a sample score report to help walk you through your student's information: <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/pdf/sample-psat-nmsqt-score-report.pdf>.

The score report will also show the correct answers, the answers you gave, and the difficulty level of each question. In the Next Steps section, you will see a message about your potential for success in AP courses based on your scores. There is also some helpful advice about when to take the SAT.

## How to Link to Khan Academy (Free SAT Practice)

Once the initial information provided on the score report has been digested, it's time to consider the real value of the PSAT, which is to help students prepare for college entrance exams—the SAT and the ACT. Thanks to a partnership with Khan Academy, students will be able to link their PSAT scores to practice materials which will support skill-building across tests. Although targeted to the SAT, the similarity between the redesigned SAT and the ACT should help students prepare more efficiently for both tests.

As a partner with the College Board, Khan Academy will offer "official" SAT practice at no cost. Students will have access to thousands of SAT test questions and four full-length SATs. SAT practice can be accessed on a computer or by using the Daily SAT Practice app or Khan Academy app on any mobile device. In addition, Khan Academy will create personalized learning plans for each student based on test performance. By linking the College Board and Khan Academy accounts, all SAT "suite" results can be sent to customize practice using actual results.

To begin the linking process, students should:

- 1) Log in or create a Khan Academy account: <https://www.khanacademy.org/sat>
- 2) When prompted, agree to link the Khan Academy and College Board accounts.  
Students will then be directed to [collegeboard.org](https://collegeboard.org)
- 3) Sign in or create a College Board account
- 4) When prompted, hit "Send" to authorize account linking
- 5) Students may then start working on Official SAT practice on Khan Academy

In the spirit of "any test prep is useful test prep," please also assume that skills developed here may very well be transferable to other assessments.