



Grayslake Central High School

District 127

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Dear Parents and Guardians of Junior Students:

On October 11, 2017 all juniors at Grayslake Central High School participated in a PSAT Exam. This was administered in response to the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) announcement that the College Board's SAT (Scholastic Assessment Test) with essay will replace the PARCC exam as the state assessment in Illinois high schools beginning in the 2016-2017 school year. The PSAT is a precursor to the SAT assessment that will be administered to all public high school students enrolled in 11th grade on **April 10, 2018**. This college entrance exam is free of charge to all students and the results can be used for college admission purposes. Please know that according to Illinois School Code, the SAT score earned on this exam must be placed on the student's transcript as PSAT scores were in the past.

In an effort to prepare our students for the April SAT Exam, all Juniors will take a ***practice*** SAT on **January 24, 2018** during school hours. Students enrolled in the SAT Prep Course will also have the opportunity to take practice tests on Saturday, January 13th and Saturday, February 24th from 8:00-12:30 PM.

Colleges use the scores from the SAT, along with other high school information, to select students for admission. All students will take the SAT with Essay instead of the ACT (American College Test) previously administered as the state-funded assessment for college and career readiness. If a student chooses to individually take the ACT Exam, they will need to sign up for a national administration test date at <http://www.act.org/> as District 127 no longer administers the ACT Exam.

Results of the PSAT assessment from October are anticipated to be available in mid-December via the College Board accounts created by your student as part of the PSAT pre-administration process. In the event your student has not yet created a College Board account, please encourage them to complete the account creation process in order to access their results. A copy of the instructions sheet given to students is available at www.d127.org located under the Student Information section.

I encourage you and your student to review the results from the PSAT exam via their College Board account to determine if further preparation and practice is needed. Review courses frequently help to increase scores, in part, through reducing test anxiety. While enrolling in a prep class does not guarantee higher test results, attention to reading comprehension, math skills and increasing testing endurance will often boost student confidence and scores. We are excited to announce updates to our test preparation program to prepare our students for this new assessment. This year we are providing two test preparation options for the SAT: a classroom-based instructional program and a Sylvan program.

Detailed information about the Grayslake Central SAT Prep options is included in this mailing and registration is currently open. If you have any questions concerning the programs, please contact either Kevin Farrell or Joan Rush.

Sincerely,

Kevin Farrell & Joan Rush
SAT Prep Class Coordinators
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