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Dear Parent(s) or Guardian(s):

During the 2020-2021 school year, The Atlanta Public School System (APS) will administer the PSAT/NMSQT to all 11th grade students who opt to sit for the assessment and a limited number of 10th grade students on Tuesday, January 26, 2021. PSAT/NMSQT administration is an annual decision and testing for 10th graders is not guaranteed this year. Students in 11th grade will receive priority slots for testing; and a final decision to administer the assessment to 10th graders will be based on the total number of opt in responses from both grade levels; as well as each school's ability to adhere to staffing needs and APS COVID-19 safety guidelines. We will announce our ability to approve or decline 10th grade participation requests by Friday, January 15th.

We ask that all parents complete the [BEST PSAT/NMSQ Opt-In Testing Form](#) by January 15th to register their student for the January 26th administration of the PSAT/NMSQT. Failure to complete the form will exclude your student from testing. Atlanta Public Schools allocated funds to pay the costs of 2020-2021 PSAT/NMSQT exam fees for 11th graders and the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) will pay for 10th grade students.

We are asking parents/guardians to be reflective about their desire to have their child complete the assessment in a face to face setting; and trust that each family will make a decision that best fits the needs of their individual child and the safety of the community. Parents/Guardians and students may prepare for the PSAT/NMSQT assessment by visiting the link: <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/pdf/official-student-guide-psat-nmsqt.pdf>. This link provides important test details, familiarizes students with question types, and information on the National Merit Scholarship Program.

College Board has not made provisions for a virtual test administration of the PSAT; therefore, **it is the expectation that APS provides a safe and secure testing environment for students who would like to participate.** With that, the PSAT/NMSQT test will be administered face to face at each high school. Below outlines APS's PSAT/NMSQT test administration process.

PSAT/NMSQT Administration Process:

1. Parents/Guardians must complete the [BEST PSAT/NMSQ Opt-In Testing Form](#) by January 15th to register their student for the January 26th administration of the PSAT/NMSQ.
2. Students must test at their home school
3. APS will provide meals and transportation for students who request them on the form.
4. Communication regarding 10th grade participation, transportation and testing room assignments will be communicated via calling post, phone call, Email, Remind, etc. Please ensure accurate contact information is included on the opt-in form.
5. Student must wear face covering or mask for the entire test administration.

**The Atlanta Public School System will follow all Georgia Health Department and the Center for Disease Control Health and Safety Guidelines as related to the COVID-19 pandemic. **

****If students are showing signs of fever, cough, runny nose, chills, or any other cold-like symptoms, they should not participate in this administration. ****

If you have any questions regarding the PSAT/NMSQT, please contact me at 404-802-4919 or rwilliams@atlanta.k12.ga.us.

Sincerely,

Robert Williams

Robert Williams, Assistant Principal

