



Columbus Academy

PSAT INFORMATION

2011

- ❖ Students in **grades 9, 10 & 11** will take the PSAT on **Wednesday, October 12, 2011**.
- ❖ No registration is required. Students will be billed by Columbus Academy for the cost.
- ❖ Students should arrive on time. Freshman and sophomores should report to the New Gym (check-in will take place in the gym). Juniors should report to the Barton Room (check-in will take place in the Barton Room). Extended-time testing students will take the exam in the library (check-in will take place there).
- ❖ Testing will begin at **8:05 AM** and will end by **11:30 AM**. Classes will resume immediately following testing. A modified class schedule will be utilized.
- ❖ Students should bring **two #2 pencils**.
- ❖ We encourage you to bring a **four-function, scientific or graphing calculator**. Calculators are highly recommended, but not required because each math question can be answered without one. Students may not share calculators.
- ❖ You may want to memorize your **social security number**. However, you are not required to list the number (and in our opinion, you do not need to).
- ❖ The PSAT is a two-hour and ten-minute (shortened) version of the SAT. The PSAT will include three areas of concentration: critical reading (sentence completions and passage-based reading completions); mathematics (multiple-choice, student-produced responses, or grid-ins); and writing (improving sentences, identifying sentence errors, and improving paragraphs).
- ❖ The PSAT is intended to be a "practice" test for the SAT. Critical reading, mathematical reasoning abilities, and writing skills will be tested. Juniors who are US citizens may also qualify for the National Achievement, National Hispanic, and National Merit Scholarship Programs.
- ❖ Students will be given the **2011 Official Student Guide to the PSAT/NMSQT**, which explains the test and provides hints, as well as practice tests, to study in preparation for the PSAT. By reading the bulletins carefully before the test and after the scores are received, you will better understand the PSAT and your score results
- ❖ **Grade 9** – this test is for practice only and will not count. However, this is the first in a series of standardized tests you will take throughout your high school career and should be taken seriously.
- ❖ **Grade 10** – this test is for practice only and will not count. However, this is a practice SAT and will be used as an early indicator of the types of colleges and universities you may consider.
- ❖ **Grade 11**– this test is a practice test for the SAT and for college scholarship opportunities through the National Achievement, National Hispanic, and National Merit Scholarship Programs. Scores will not be reported to colleges for admission purposes, but your performance will help indicate how well you may perform on the SAT and provide guidelines for improvement.