

PSAT at AHHS -Thursday, October 12, 2023

*THE PSAT IS FULLY DIGITAL FOR ALL 9TH-11TH GRADERS THIS YEAR!

How is the PSAT 8/9 and/or the PSAT/NMSQT structured?

- The PSAT 8/9 and the PSAT/NMSQT are structured the exact same way and will take the exact same amount of time.
- The test will take 2 hours and 14 minutes and consists of 2 sections:
- SECTION ONE: Reading and Writing Section- 64 minutes - 54 questions
- SECTION TWO: Math Section - 70 minutes - 44 questions (calculator can be used on ALL questions)
- TOTAL - 134 minutes - 98 questions

How can I prepare for the PSAT ahead of time?

- Since the test is fully digital for all grade levels this year, digital practice is going to be the best way to prepare! And good news, College Board has several resources for digital practice!!
- Details on resources from College Board can be found at <https://satsuite.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt/preparing>

Practice with KHAN ACADEMY
Official Digital SAT Prep on Khan Academy is a great resource for PSAT/NMSQT. It's free, comprehensive, and available to all students!
You will find targeted lessons with practice questions/quizzes on Khan Academy. It will give you immediate feedback/answer explanations for every question! This is a great place to brush up on skills before taking the Bluebook Full Practice Test.
To access Khan Academy, go to this link: https://www.khanacademy.org/sat (Be sure to click the 2024 administration to practice the digital exam versions!)

Practice with BLUEBOOK
Take a free, full length practice test on Bluebook, or try a few sample questions in the test preview.
This is the EXACT TESTING APPLICATION that our students will use on testing day. Bluebook will let you practice the new exam, in the new format, in the new testing application. It will also score your practice test for you, so you can see how you are doing!
To access Bluebook, you will find that this app is already loaded into your student laptop! Students will open the app (update app if needed) and then sign in with their College Board account to access prep resources.

What will PSAT testing day look like at Arlington Heights HS?

- All 9th- 11th graders will be testing at AHHS on Thursday, October 12th. Students will find Orange rosters posted around the school before testing so that they can find their testing room (Main Hallway A-bldg, Both Hallways Library B-bldg and in C-bldg). Seniors will be assigned to Senior activity rotations.

Students need to bring...

- **A fully charged SCHOOL ISSUED Macbook or Chromebook.** Please bring your charger as well. **DO NOT** bring your personal device. Bring the device that the school has issued out to you.

- In addition to their Macbook or Chromebook, students should have the most updated version of the Bluebook application loaded into their apps on their Macbook. Students will be accessing the Bluebook app during their Period 2 class on 10/2 or 10/4.

- FYI - The Bluebook app will provide a personal clock/timer within the testing platform. Students can choose to keep it visible or hide it during the test.

- Exam Setup must be done before test day to save time on test day. Before October 12th, students will be prompted by their 2nd period teachers to complete this step on 10/2 or 10/4.

- Optional: An approved calculator (and batteries, for backup). - This is optional as the digital testing application has a built-in calculator (called Desmos) that students can use.

- More details from College Board on the use of calculators can be found here:
<https://satsuite.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt/whats-on-the-test/math/calculator-use>

- Students will have a ten-minute break between the two sections of the test. Students will need to use the green Testing Rest Room pass if needed.

Accessing the Bluebook Exams Application?

1. Turn off your computer (by clicking the apple in the left-hand corner and then shutdown) while at school. Don't just restart it. Actually, turn it off. Turn it back on. (This step is essential because it will download and/or update the app to the latest version needed.)

2. Go to Finder on your Macbook. This is the icon with the smiley face. Then, click on applications.

3. Click on the Bluebook application. It's the blue icon with a star on it.

4. Students will complete Digital Readiness during their Period 2 class on 10/2 or 10/4 with their own Sign-in ticket.

4. Students can also click "Sign in with a student College Board account" and then enter their College Board account info. If you don't have a College Board account, you will need to create one. You will also be given a chance to create an account during your Period 2 class on 10/2 or 10/4.

5. Agree to the terms and conditions. Then, start exploring the app!

1. You can do a quick "Test Preview" to see the format/style of questions on the test.

2. You can take a Full-Length Practice Test (exactly as it will be on PSAT testing day) and see your score!

- If for some reason you don't have the Bluebook app on your Macbook, you need to install it through the Manager application.

- Open the Manager application. This is the application with three lines (various length/sizes).

- Make sure you see the Self-Service tab in the left-hand corner. Click on "My Apps" on the left.

- Find the Bluebook Application. Click "install" or "update" depending on what is needed. Once the command is sent, turn off your computer. Then turn it back on. Now you'll be able to follow the steps listed above to log into Bluebook.

Accessing the Khan Academy Resources?

1. Go to this link: <https://www.khanacademy.org/sat>

2. Click the "In the U.S. or U.S. Territories" option when asked where you will be testing.

3. Select "In 2024" when asked when you plan to test in order to see the digital exam prep resources.

4. Click "Let's Go" to explore either Digital SAT Math or Digital SAT English lessons/resources/quizzes.

5. I recommend creating an account/logging in to ensure your progress is saved!

If you have any questions regarding PSAT Day, please contact Jennifer Pacheco Mimms – jennifer.pacheco@fwisd.org