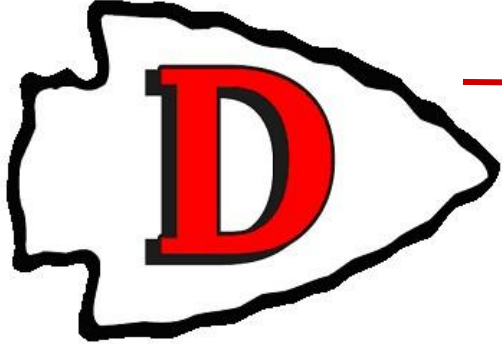


# Preparing for PSAT/SAT

## Presentation for Students & Families



January 23, 2020  
Derby High School

# Planning Committee



- Martin Pascale, Principal, DHS
- Ray Coplin, Assistant Principal, DHS
- Adam Baker, School Counselor, DHS
- Jennifer Ostrosky, School Counselor, DHS
- Matt Bradshaw, Teacher, DHS & Athletic Director, DPS
  
- Rachael Caggiano, Principal, DMS
- Brian Natcher, School Counselor, DMS
- Anat Segal, School Counselor, DMS
  
- Dr. Matthew Conway, Jr., Superintendent
- Jen Olson, Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment

# Derby's Assessment Schedule



- **Grade 8:** PSAT 8/9 Spring
- **Grade 9:** PSAT 8/9 Fall, Spring
- **Grade 10:** PSAT10 Fall, PSAT/NMSQT Spring
- **Grade 11:** PSAT/NMSQT Fall, SAT Spring (March 25)
- **Grade 12:** SAT and SAT Subject test registered through College Board (by choice) and ACT

# What is the PSAT?



The PSAT is the practice “pre” test for the SAT exam.

- ★ The SAT exam has been used for decades as the standard academic measure for high school students.





# What does the SAT measure?



The SAT exam is based on a scale of 1600 points - your PSAT score is an indicator of how well you would score on the actual SAT.

Your score indicates two areas that were assessed - Math and Evidence-Based Reading and Writing.

# Breakdown of PSAT & SAT scores

	BENCHMARKS Target Score		MINIMUM/MAXIMUM PER SECTION	MAXIMUM SCORE PER TEST
	<i>Reading &amp; Writing</i>	<i>Math</i>	<i>Min</i>  <i>Max</i>	<i>Total</i>
<b>PSAT 8/9</b>	410	450	120  720	1440
<b>PSAT/NMSQT Grade 10/11</b>	460	570	160  760	1520
<b>SAT</b>	480	530	200  800	1600 without essay *2400 with essay

# What is the PSAT/NMSQT?



The PSAT/NMSQT is the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test

- Standardized test that 10th and 11th graders can take
- The PSAT is used to determine eligibility and qualification for the National Merit Scholarship Program as well as a practice test for the SAT's.
- Scholarship eligibility for the state of CT criteria:
  - 740 (Reading & Writing)
  - 740 (Math)
  - Total score of 1480



# PSAT QUICK FACTS

- **The PSAT has three parts:**
  - Reading (60 minutes, 47 questions)
  - Writing and Language (35 minutes, 44 questions)
  - Math (70 minutes, 48 questions)
- The PSAT is only given twice a year, usually on a Wednesday and a Saturday in October for those students not taking it at their local school.





# SAT QUICK FACTS

- Administered 7 times a year in the U.S. at test centers
- As an Alliance District 100% of students the PSAT/SAT at no cost to parents. (AP exams as well)
- Students take the SAT for the first time in the spring of their junior year
- Most students pay a fee to take the SAT, but income-eligible students can take it for free with a fee waiver
- SAT connects your child to scholarship opportunities as well as to colleges that are looking for students like them
- Students are responsible for sending their scores electronically through their College Board account to colleges

# What does my score mean?



Your score measures your college “readiness” in both subject areas.

- Moving target by grade
- Offers insight on personal strengths/areas of growth

# What Information Can I Get From My Score Report?



## Your Total Score

**A** **1010** | 400–1600

## Essay Scores

**4** | 2–8  
Reading

**4** | 2–8  
Analysis

**4** | 2–8  
Writing

**B** **50th**  
Nationally Representative  
Sample Percentile

**36th**  
SAT User Percentile

## Section Scores

**A** **490** | 200–800  
Your Evidence-Based  
Reading and Writing  
Score

**44th** Nationally Representative  
Sample Percentile

**31st** SAT User Percentile

  
You've met  
the benchmark!

**520** | 200–800  
Your Math Score

**57th** Nationally Representative  
Sample Percentile

**45th** SAT User Percentile

**C**   
You've scored below  
the benchmark.

## D Test Scores

**22** | 10–40  
Reading

**27** | 10–40  
Writing and Language

**26.0** | 10–40  
Math

## E Cross-Test Scores | 10–40

**24**  
Analysis in History/Social Studies

**23**  
Analysis in Science

## Subscores | 1–15

**6**  
Command of  
Evidence

**9**  
Words in Context

**8**  
Expression of Ideas

**9**  
Standard English  
Conventions

**8**  
Heart of Algebra

**9**  
Problem Solving  
and Data Analysis

**7**  
Passport to  
Advanced Math

I have my printed score report. Why should I go on the College Board site?



- **PRACTICE FOR THE SAT:** Send your scores to Khan Academy® for a free, personalized SAT practice plan based on your test results.
- **SEARCH FOR COLLEGES, MAJORS, AND CAREERS:** free tools to discover which colleges and programs are right for you.
- **QUALIFY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS:** Use your PSAT/NMSQT score to access scholarships from National Merit Scholarship Corporation and others.



# What Other Information Is Available to Me?

Full College Board Sample Score Report

 CollegeBoard

**SAT<sup>®</sup>**

# How Do I Increase My Score?



The most obvious way to improve your score is to **attend school** regularly and to improve your academics here at DHS.

Additionally you may take the following action steps:

1. Create an account on **College Board**
2. Link to **Khan Academy**
  - *Consistently practice the skills that have been identified as areas of weakness*
3. Enroll in a **SAT prep course**

# What Is Khan Academy?



- A non-profit educational organization with the goal of creating a set of online tools that help educate students.
- It produces short lessons in the form of YouTube videos.

# How Do I Get A Khan Academy Account?



- You can create a free account by visiting [KhanAcademy.org](https://KhanAcademy.org) and clicking “Sign Up”



# Linking your Khan Academy and College Board accounts



- [SATpractice.org](https://satpractice.org)
- From your College Board account

# What can an SAT Prep Course do for me?



1. Prepares students with the overall structure, format, and content of the SAT
  - ID weaknesses/strength areas
  - Set a score goal
  - Learn test strategies
  - Decrease anxiety on SAT day
  - Improve your test score

What kind of results do SAT prep courses offer?



Last year an SAT prep course was offered to DHS students in collaboration with Vin Madera.

# What kind of results do SAT prep courses offer?



## 2018-2019 SAT Prep Course:

- 18 students enrolled in course
- Average PSAT score (Spring 2018): 943
- Average SAT score (Spring 2019): 1012
- Average growth of 69 points

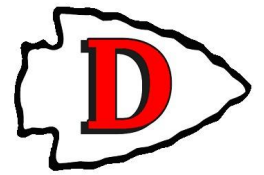
*Success Story: **Student A** utilized Khan Academy and enrolled in the SAT prep course. **Student A** started with a PSAT score of 670 (Oct. 2017) and ended with an SAT score of 1070 (Dec. 2019)*

# What SAT Score Do I Need To Get Into College?



- ❖ Every school has different admissions requirements
- ❖ SAT Scores are only one factor considered for admissions (GPA, class rank, extracurricular activities, etc)
- ❖ Community colleges do not require the SAT to be taken for acceptance, many job training programs do not require the SAT either.
- ❖ Connecticut state colleges (Western, Eastern, Central, Southern)

# Average Admitted SAT Range by College



UCONN	1130 - 1340
Yale	1430 - 1600
Quinnipiac	990 - 1180
Southern CT State University	880 - 1030
University of Rhode Island	970 - 1170
Becker College	890 - 1120
Eastern CT State University	1020-1190

University of Miami	1220-1420
Boston College	1270-1460
The University of Alabama	980-1230
Rutgers University-New Brunswick	1110 - 1350
Coastal Carolina University	910-1090
Keene State	870-1060
University of New Haven	950-1160

- **Student A: 970-1040 = increase of 70 points**
- **Student B: 1050-1210 = increase of 160 points**
- **Student C: 1020-1080 = increase of 60 points**
- **Student D: 1210-1340 = increase of 130 points**

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## Importance of PSAT

### QUALIFY FOR NATIONAL MERIT PROGRAM RECOGNITION

**34,000 Letters of Commendation** in recognition of their outstanding academic promise

**16,000 Semifinalists.** Semifinalists are the highest-scoring entrants in each state

**15,000 Finalists.** Semifinalists who meet academic and other requirements will be notified that they have advanced to Finalist standing

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## Importance of PSAT

# QUALIFY FOR NATIONAL MERIT PROGRAM RECOGNITION SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

**7,600 Merit Scholarship® winners.**

- » National Merit® \$2500 Scholarships
- » Corporate-sponsored scholarships
- » College-sponsored scholarships

**1,100 Special Scholarship recipients.**



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# SCSU MERIT SCHOLARSHIP (Full Ride Scholarship)

**SAT  
1150+**



# Can I Participate This Year?



- The course will be offered again this year. There will be two sessions - Mondays and Thursdays from 3:00 - 5:00 PM and 5:15 - 7:15 PM

Program will start in early February

- Students are responsible for their own transportation
- There is no cost to families for the program if students complete the course thanks to grant funding.

Save the Date!  
**CT SAT Day**  
March 25, 2019

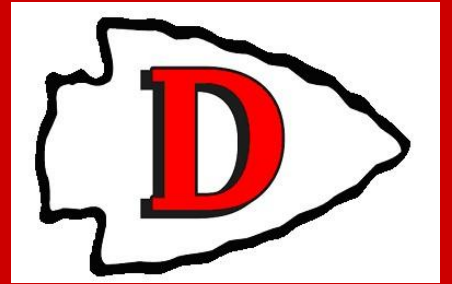


- 43 school days away!
- We are looking for **Perfect Attendance** on 3/25 school-wide testing conditions to help students focus
- Post-test **breakfast** and **event**

\*\*Grade 9 PSAT: April 22

Make up tests April 28/29

# SAT Score Data



# How Am I Performing?



- For **9th grade**, the national average is 862, state average is 870 and our district average is 793.
- For **10th grade**, the national average 925, state average is 913 and our district average is 792.
- For **11th grade**, the national average is 1004, state average is 971 and the district average is 845.

# What Is the District Doing About This?



- Launched an **Enrichment Program (LEAP)**
- **Instructional coaching** in Math at DHS with regional expert
- **Intensive intervention** and instructional support
- Fully funding **SAT Prep Course**
- Promoting **regular school attendance**
- BOE Sub committee **Student Support Services** and new **Curriculum Committee**

# Next Steps: The Big Picture



- Have a plan - what do you want to do after high school?
- Have a conversation - speak with your parents/guardians, your counselor, your teachers about what your plan is.
- Set goals and achieve them!
- Visualize yourself in college. Visit schools or take virtual trips.



[YouVisit Virtual Tour](#)

# Look for upcoming workshops



- Paying for College: Understanding the Financial Aid Process and the FAFSA
  - Applying for College: The Common App
  - Visiting Colleges