

March, 2019

Dear Parent:

On April 9, 2019, your junior child will be administered the Illinois State Board of Education's required high school assessment, the College Board Scholastic Achievement Test (SAT). All Illinois public school students enrolled in grade 11 must take the State-sponsored SAT with essay, unless they are eligible to take an alternate assessment, in order to graduate.

In addition to serving as Illinois' grade 11 assessment, the SAT is an entrance exam used by many colleges and universities. The State-sponsored SAT will provide a valid score for college entrance purposes and there is no charge for taking the State-sponsored SAT. Test administration will begin at 8:15am and conclude at 1:15pm, Juniors will be dismissed from school at that time. Students who require test accommodations beyond these times will have alternative transportation options. Buses will be available for those who normally use bus service to school and back according to their schedule.

The SAT assesses student knowledge in reading, writing and mathematics.

Component	Time Allotted (minutes)	Number of Questions
Reading	65	52
Writing and Language	35	44
Math	80	58
Essay	50	1

Listed below are some ways you can assist your son or daughter in preparing for the tests.

1. Encourage your student to get plenty of sleep, especially the week of testing.
2. Encourage your son or daughter to eat a nutritious breakfast on the day of testing.
3. Your child should bring two number 2 pencils with good erasers and a calculator for use on certain parts of the test.

The College Board has very strict guidelines regarding the possession of cell phones and wearable technology during testing. For this reason, we strongly encourage students to leave all cell phones and other electronic devices either at home or in their locker. Anyone using prohibited aids including cell phones and other electronics during any part of the test administration, including breaks may be dismissed from the test and have their scores cancelled.

Test results from the State-sponsored SAT should be available from the College Board in late May and will include an overall score plus subscores for the areas of evidence-based reading and writing and math. Students can elect to send these SAT scores to specific colleges and universities as part of the testing

process and should be prepared to indicate which colleges and/or universities to send scores to prior to testing on April 9.

Your child may wish to take an additional SAT exam on a national test date to improve test scores. Your child's school counselor is available to discuss potential benefits of additional testing and can provide information about national SAT test dates and costs. Further information about the SAT is on the District 211 website at www.d211.org or on the College Board website at <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat>.

On April 10, Conant High School will administer the State-sponsored PSAT 9 to current freshmen. **Your child will not take this assessment and will not attend school on April 10.** I recommend your child pursue educational opportunities independently on these dates. These opportunities may include:

- Study and research to address class obligations
- College/university exploration or visits
- Business/industry visits and job shadowing
- Volunteer work

With your assistance, your child can turn these opportunities into valuable educational experiences. Please encourage your child to put forth his or her best effort on the SAT in order to demonstrate his/her true capabilities. For additional questions, please contact your student's school counselor.

Sincerely,



Julie Nowak
Principal