

Assessments provide valuable information for students, parents and educators on whether students have mastered grade level and content standards and are on track to graduate prepared for the 21st century. Assessment results provide one measure in a body of evidence of your child's academic progress.



## WHAT IS THE PSAT 10?

The PSAT 10 is an assessment that students take in the tenth grade to help them understand their academic progress and whether they are prepared for college and career. The PSAT 10 helps students identify the areas of improvement before taking the SAT in the eleventh grade. Since the SAT is used by most colleges and universities to accept students, taking the PSAT is a key step for students preparing to go to college.

The PSAT 10 is aligned to Colorado Academic Standards and measures whether students are on-track in their mastery of the standards. Student scores do not count for grades and are not included on college transcripts. The PSAT 10 covers evidence-based reading and writing and math. The math test will include how students can use math to solve problems in science, social studies, and other career and real-life scenarios. Unlike previous versions, the redesigned PSAT and SAT do not penalize students for the wrong guess.

In May 2015, the state legislation passed a bill requiring all Colorado school districts to find a tenth- and eleventh-grade exam to measure college and career readiness. After a great deal of feedback from our community, Colorado adopted the PSAT 10 and the SAT. Students in grades 3 - 9 will continue to take the CMAS: Math and CMAS: English Language Arts tests.

<b>Grade 3 – 9</b>	<b>Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS)</b>
<b>Grade 10</b>	<b>PSAT 10</b>
<b>Grade 11</b>	<b>SAT</b>



## WHEN IS MY CHILD BEING TESTED?

The PSAT 10 will be given on April 11 or April 12, 2017 and will be administered using a pencil/paper format. The test is approximately 3 hours long.



## WHAT SCORE(S) WILL MY CHILD RECEIVE?

Students will receive scores between 320 and 1520. This score represents the combined score of student progress in the math section and the reading and writing section. The scores will not be included on student transcripts and will be mailed to students before the end of the school year.



## HOW WILL THESE SCORES BE USED?

Students, families and teachers should use these scores to see how prepared students are for the SAT as well as their general preparedness for college and career.



## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

We encourage you to be involved in your child's education. Please don't hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher for ways you can help your child at home. There are also free resources for the SAT, including through websites and downloadable apps:

### **Daily Practice for the New SAT | College Board**

- Receive daily, sample questions and get immediate feedback.
- Allows students to practice on a regular basis.
- Students can complete PSAT or SAT practice tests using printed answer sheets, then take a picture and use the Scan and score function.

### **Official SAT Practice | Khan Academy**

- Students sign up for an account and receive personalized recommendations for areas of improvement based on their scores.
- Full-length practice tests, diagnostic quizzes, daily practice questions and preparation resources targeted to specific areas of the test are also available for free via Khan Academy's website: <https://www.khanacademy.org/mission/sat>.

We have partnered with the Boys & Girls Club that connects low-income students with those resources and others.

We encourage you to be involved in your child's education. Please don't hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher for ways you can help your child at home.

We also encourage you to go to <http://standards.dpsk12.org/standards-resources/> to find helpful information, including:

- DPS Parent Guides to Student Learning
- A Parent's Guide to Technology
- Information for English Learners

For more information on assessments and testing accommodations, please visit the Accountability, Research, and Evaluation website: [www.dpsare.com](http://www.dpsare.com)

If you have questions or concerns about assessments, please contact your child's school directly or call the Family & Community Engagement support line at (720) 423-3054.