

# Plainfield Community Consolidated School District 202

We prepare learners for the future.



## Administration Center

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September 14, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians:

This letter includes important updates to the state's standardized testing process that will affect high schools.

In preparation for the SAT, juniors will take the PSAT/NMSQT, National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test on October 10, 2018. The PSAT/NMSQT will prepare juniors for the SAT that they will take on April 9, 2019, and makes them eligible for the National Merit Scholarship Competition. The National Merit Scholarship program is an academic competition for recognition and college scholarships that began in 1955. Students will arrive at school at the regular time, but will be dismissed at approximately 10:30 a.m. **Freshmen, sophomores, and seniors will not attend school on October 10, 2018.**

Since the 2000-01 school year, the State of Illinois has paid for a college admission test for all high school juniors as part of the State's accountability process for high schools. The 2018-19 school year will be the third year that Illinois uses the College Board's Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) as the state-funded, standardized test required of all juniors.

According to the Illinois State Board of Education, all 11<sup>th</sup> grade Illinois students must take the SAT, including writing, on Tuesday, April 9, 2019, during the regular school day to graduate from high school. Student scores on the SAT will be placed on the student's permanent record and entered on the student's transcript. In addition, beginning in 2018-19, the State of Illinois will pay for freshmen to take the PSAT8/9 and sophomores to take the PSAT/10 on the same date, April 9, 2019. **Seniors will not attend school on April 9, 2019.**

As a reminder, high school students taking their first Biology course will take the Illinois Science Assessment during one science class period in the spring of 2019.

In the meantime, please feel free to talk to your high school guidance counselor for more information about post-secondary planning, test registration, or other academic questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dr. Dan McDonnell".

Dr. Dan McDonnell  
Director, High School Curriculum and Instruction