

Mrs. Sinéad Crews Director of School Counseling

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July 29, 2021

Dear Students and Parents of the Classes of 2023 and 2024,

We hope you are enjoying your summer!

We look forward to the 2021-2022 school year and the School Counseling department is busy preparing to support your child in his/her post-secondary planning and searching process. As part of these efforts, this letter serves to inform you of the opportunity for your child to take the PSAT/NMSQT for preparation for future college admissions tests as well as for eligibility for the National Merit Scholarships.

## PSAT/NMSQT - Saturday, October 16, 2021

Livingston High School is scheduled to host the PSAT/NMSQT on **Saturday, October 16, 2021** for both **10th and 11th graders**. Only LHS students are permitted to test at LHS on October 16, 2021.

Students can register to take the PSAT/NMSQT online through Total Registration. To register, click here or visit the LHS website. The deadline to register for the PSAT/NMSQT is Friday, October 1, 2021 at 6:00 PM. To complete registration, students must answer all of the required questions. Please be sure to have a credit or debit card available before beginning registration. Families can also pay by check, if needed. For students who have approved College Board accommodations, please enter your College Board SSD number provided on your approval letter from the College Board when registering on Total Registration. If you have any questions about your accommodations or your child's SSD number, please contact your child's case manager and/or school counselor. If you have not yet applied for accommodations with the College Board, please note that the deadline to apply for the PSAT/NMSQT is August 24th. Please contact your child's case manager and/or school counselor with any questions.

The PSAT/NMSQT is a practice exam for students regardless of specific post-secondary plans and goals. While many colleges and universities are adopting test-optional admissions policies for the upcoming year due to the pandemic's impact on being able to host ACT and SAT tests for students across the country, it remains to be seen what the long term impacts will be. Many students may face the requirement of assessment(s) pertaining to their specific post-secondary plans and the PSAT/NMSQT serves as an opportunity to practice skills as well as preparedness that determine future success. The PSAT/NMSQT exam is an analytical assessment that measures what students learn in high school and provides data as to what they need to succeed in the future. PSAT/NMSQT scores are not shared with colleges or programs; however, the assessment serves as a prerequisite for the College Board suite of exams, including the SAT. College placement, AP exams and other assessments required for post-secondary options are aligning themselves with similar characteristics as the PSAT/NMSQT test, further reinforcing the importance of practicing skill, content and test-taking strategies for all students.

The PSAT/NMSQT assesses Reading, Writing and Language and Math in a practice environment that yields direct feedback for students about their strengths and areas in which to improve. Upon receipt of score reports from College Board, typically in December, students will have the opportunity to view their scores and access resources for continued familiarity and practice with these types of assessments. For juniors, the PSAT/NMSQT also serves as the opportunity to qualify for the National Merit Scholarship Program for students who score within the eligible ranges.

As a reminder, please register here for the PSAT/NMSQT.

- Tuesday, August 3, 2021 Registration Begins
- Friday, October 1, 2021 at 6:00 PM Registration Ends

Additionally, please be aware that safety protocols will be enacted that adhere to the NJDOE safety guidelines, NJ Department of Health recommendations and the Livingston Public Schools testing and safety protocols. Students and parents will receive additional communication prior to the test date with detailed information on these safety requirements, procedures for entering and exiting the building as well as test security requirements as outlined by Collegeboard.

If you have additional questions, please contact your child's School Counselor or visit <u>Collegeboard's</u> <u>PSAT/NMSQT website</u> for more information. Please also visit the <u>new LHS College Counseling website</u> for information and resources for your child's grade level as well as post-secondary admissions testing.

If you have any questions, please contact your child's school counselor or Ms. Rothman.

Best,

Sinéad Crews Director of School Counseling Livingston Public Schools

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Nicole Rothman College Counselor Livingston High School

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