



Livingston

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Mrs. Sinéad Crews
Director of School Counseling

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September 3, 2020

Dear Parents of Livingston High School Juniors,

Welcome to the 2020-2021 school year at Livingston High School!

While this is not how we typically embark on the start of the school year, please know that the School Counseling department stands ready to support your child in his/her post-secondary planning and searching process during the upcoming year. 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 - Saturday, October 17, 2020

Livingston High School is scheduled to host the PSAT/NMSQT on Saturday, October 17, 2020. For the 2020-2021 school year, the PSAT/NMSQT will be only offered to 11th graders in order to maintain and adhere to NJDOE safety guidelines, NJ Department of Health recommendations and the Livingston Public Schools testing and safety protocols.

Students at LHS will register online through Total Registration for the October 17th PSAT/NMSQT. In order to register, students should [click here](#) or visit the [LHS website](#). **The deadline to register for the PSAT/NMSQT is Friday, September 28, 2020 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 Collegeboard accommodations, please enter your Collegeboard SSD number provided on your approval letter from Collegeboard when registering on Total Registration. If you have any questions about your accommodations or your child's SSD number, please contact your child's school counselor or case manager.

The PSAT/NMSQT is a practice exam for all 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, 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 Collegeboard 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 Collegeboard, 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.

- Thursday, September 3, 2020 - Registration Begins
- Friday, September 28, 2020 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 [Collegeboard's PSAT/NMSQT website](#) for more information.

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

Best,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sinéad Crews".

Sinéad Crews
Director of School Counseling
Livingston Public Schools