Dear Parent/Guardian of Grade 10 or Grade 11 Student,

On Wednesday, October 16, 2019, Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) will administer the PSAT to all Grade 10 students and Grade 11 students who pay to take the PSAT. The PSAT provides an important measure of each student’s readiness for advanced coursework, college and careers, and preparation for future college readiness examinations.

Prior to PSAT administration, there is a two-part pre-administration session. First, to save time during the actual test administration, certain information about your child will be provided to the College Board, (the provider of the PSAT and SAT) in advance of the PSAT. The required information covers basic information (such as name, school, state, student ID, grade, gender, and date of birth) and is needed to identify your child’s test and provide a score report.

Second, your child will have the opportunity to participate, with your consent, in the optional Student Data Questionnaire. The College Board gives students and families complete discretion regarding any voluntary information they provide as part of the Student Data Questionnaire. Information gathered is used for group reporting, for analysis to ensure that the exams are fair for all groups, to connect your child with potential colleges or scholarship opportunities, and for research. Read more about the Student Data Questionnaire below.

To provide consent for your child to participate in the optional Student Data Questionnaire, you must return a signed consent form before the school pre-administration session.

- If you have a myMCPS Portal account, you can provide this consent online by logging into the myMCPS Portal at https://portal.mcpsmd.org/.
- If you do not have a myMCPS Portal account, please contact the school to receive account information.
- Or, you can return a copy of this form to your child’s school by signing the consent form on the following page.

Whether or not you consent for your child to participate in the optional Student Data Questionnaire, your child will still participate in PSAT School Day on Wednesday, October 16, 2019.

Your child’s school counselor and other staff will be working individually with your student over the next several weeks to prepare for administration of the PSAT. If you have any further questions, please contact your child’s school counselor.

Sincerely,

Dirk Cauley, PSAT Testing Coordinator
PSAT CONSENT FORM

As part of the administration of the PSAT, your child will have the opportunity to participate, with your consent, in the optional Student Data Questionnaire. Your child’s responses to all questions on the Student Data Questionnaire, other than the required registration questions, are optional as explained in the inserted copy of the PSAT Student Answer Sheet Instructions. The Questionnaire can help:

• Give counselors and college admission officers information to help your child plan for the future. The more information they have, the more assistance they can give to you.
• Provide information to the College Board that ensures the exam is a fair and accurate test for all students.
• Are used by the College Board for research and planning to improve our tests and services.
• Contribute—combined with responses of all other students taking the same exam—to an understanding of your graduating class. This lets colleges and universities deliver programs and opportunities to serve you and your classmates.

A primary benefit of completing the optional Student Data Questionnaire is to participate in Student Search Service, which is a program that connects your child to college and scholarship opportunities that reflect your child’s interests. If you choose to permit your child to complete the optional Student Data Questionnaire, the data your child provides will be added to your child’s College Board student record, even if you choose not to participate in Student Search Service.

You and your child can also view the questions that are in the questionnaire online at https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/pdf/psat-nmsqt-coordinator-manual.pdf. Pages 51–57 include the questions that appear on the Student Data Questionnaire and how your child’s responses will be used.

MCPS has a data sharing agreement with the College Board for the administration of the PSAT. The College Board has assured MCPS that it only shares data with eligible colleges, universities, and scholarship and educational opportunity programs that sign a license agreement with the College Board. The College Board consistently monitors these organizations’ use of student information for compliance. Individual student scores are not shared through Student Search Service, and you may withdraw your participation in Student Search Service at any time. To be clear, completion of the Student Data Questionnaire and participation in Student Search Service are optional and voluntary for all students. Learn more in the College Board Privacy Policy, which covers the Student Data Questionnaire, at www.collegeboard.org/privacy-policy.

I provide consent for my child to complete the optional Student Data Questionnaire and participate in the College Board’s Student Search Service, as part of the pre-administration process for the PSAT administration in MCPS.

____________________________________________ __________________
Parent/Guardian Signature Date

____________________________________________ __________________
Student Signature Date