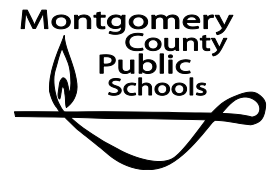


MONTGOMERY BLAIR HIGH SCHOOL



A Nationally Recognized School of Excellence
51 University Boulevard East • Silver Spring, MD 20901
Montgomery County Public Schools

Main Office – (301) 649-2800
FAX Number – (301) 649-2830

Principal's Office – (301) 649-2806
Academy Office – (301) 649-2880

September 6, 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Wednesday, October 11, 2017, is **College Readiness Day** at Montgomery Blair. On this day, all students will participate in an exam or activity to help prepare them for college from 7:45 to 11:30 am. This is an important day for all students and staff. Please remind your son/daughter of the importance of attending school on this day. There will be a Score Back Night held in January for students and parents to hear more information about the College Readiness examination process. The College Board has partnered with Khan Academy to provide **free** online practice. Every student should visit khanacademy.org to establish an account.

9th Grade

All 9th grade students, **except** for ESOL 1-2 and METS students, will take the official PSAT 8/9 on Wednesday, October 11, 2017. The PSAT 8/9 is a two hour and twenty –five minute exam developed by College Board (www.collegeboard.org) to prepare them for future college readiness exams such as PSAT/NSMQT, SAT, ACT and ACCUPLACER. There will be a \$10 charge for each student to sit for the exam. The registration form plus payment will be collected in the **Counseling Department** during lunch September 6 - 22, 2017. **Online credit card payments may be made at: <http://osp.osmsinc.com/MontgomeryMD/>(A 3.75% convenience fee will be added).**

10th Grade

All 10th grade students, except for ESOL 1-2 and METS students, will take the **PSAT/NMSQT (Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test)** developed by College Board. The PSAT/NMSQT is a two hour and forty-five minute exam that measures academic abilities important in college work. It consists of two 25-minute math sections, two 25-minute verbal sections, and one writing skills section. **MCPS will pay** for all 10th graders to take the PSAT. Our goal is to have **100 percent** participation of our 10th graders.

11th Grade

Important: To comply with the College and Career Readiness and College Completion Act (CCRCCA) of 2013, 11th grade students, except for ESOL 1-2 and METS students, are required to take a MSDE approved college readiness assessment (ACT, SAT, ACCUPLACER) by the end of Grade 11.

Eleventh grade students will have two options to choose from. Below is a description of the two options.

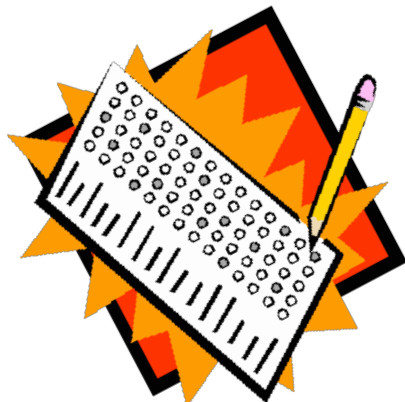
1. Take the College Board **PSAT/NMSQT (Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test)**. Students who take the PSAT in their junior year may qualify for the *National Merit, National Achievement, or National Hispanic Scholar Programs*. Juniors who take the PSAT, **will be required to take the SAT or ACT by the end of their eleventh grade year**. Students in the 11th grade will have to pay a \$16.00 fee for the PSAT. The registration form plus payment will be collected in the **Counseling Department** during lunch **September 6 - 22, 2017**. **Online credit card payments may be made at: <http://osp.osmsinc.com/MontgomeryMD/>(A 3.75% convenience fee will be added).**
2. 11th grade students who do not take the PSAT will have an opportunity to take the **ACCUPLACER**. The ACCUPLACER was designed to assess students' knowledge in math, reading, and writing. Over 1,500 higher educational institutions administer ACCUPLACER tests as part of their enrollment process. This **will** fulfill their CCRCCA requirement.

12th Grade

All 12th graders are expected to attend school on College Readiness Day. The Counseling Department has planned a number of college/career activities for seniors on this day. These activities include a college fair (with over 120 college representatives attending), essay writing sessions, SAT Prep sessions, and scholarship/financial aid information sessions. We want every senior to take advantage of the opportunity and participate in these events.

I look forward to having all of our students participate in College Readiness Day. If you have questions regarding any of this information, contact the Counseling Office at 301-649-2810.

Sincerely,
Renay Johnson, Principal



**PSAT REGISTRATION FORM
(For 9th Graders Only)
MONTGOMERY BLAIR HIGH SCHOOL
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2017**

All 9th grade students will take the official **PSAT 8/9** on Wednesday, October 11, 2017. The **PSAT 8/9** is a two hour and thirty minute exam developed by College Board (www.collegeboard.org) to prepare them for future college readiness exams such as the PSAT/NMSQT, SAT, ACT and ACCUPLACER. There will be a **\$10 charge** for each student to sit for the exam. The registration form plus payment will be collected in the **Counseling Department** during lunch from September 6 through September 22, 2017.

To register, 9th graders should **complete this form + return it with payment to the COUNSELING OFFICE (during lunch)**. Checks should be made payable to MBHS and should have the student's name and ID number written on them. There will be an online payment option beginning September 6, 2017. Please visit www.mbhs.edu for more information.

On TEST DAY, STUDENTS MUST BRING AT LEAST TWO NUMBER 2 PENCILS AND THEIR OWN SCIENTIFIC OR GRAPHING CALCULATOR.

PAYMENTS WILL BE COLLECTED September 6 – September 22, 2017 IN THE COUNSELING OFFICE

DURING LUNCH

Student Name _____

Student ID Number _____ Grade _____

Home Phone# _____

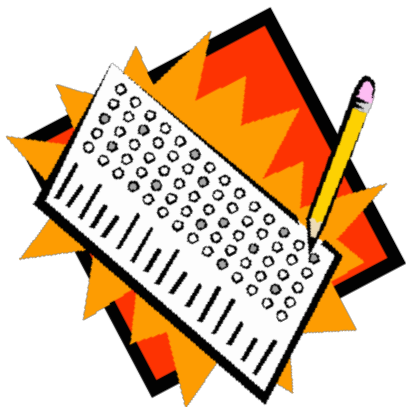
Parent Cell # _____

Parent's Signature _____

MBHS Staff Only

Date Payment Received _____ MBHS Staff Initials _____ Paid By: Cash Check Online

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: September 22, 2017



**PSAT REGISTRATION FORM
(For 11th Graders Only)
MONTGOMERY BLAIR HIGH SCHOOL
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2017**

The PSAT/NMSQT (Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test) is a two hour and forty-five minute exam that measures academic abilities important in college work. This test is a practice for students preparing for their first SAT. Scores are used to help predict how well one may do on the SAT. Only students who take the PSAT in **their** junior year will be considered for *the National Merit Scholarship Program*, the *National Achievement Scholarship Program*, or the *National Hispanic Scholar Awards Program*.

This year, the PSAT will be administered on Wednesday, October 11th. Eleventh (11th) graders who want their test scored by the College Board **must pay the \$16.00 registration fee**. All 11th graders are encouraged to pay to take the PSAT and have their test scored by the College Board. For more information about the PSAT, go to www.collegeboard.org or contact the Counseling Office.

To register, 11th graders should **complete this form + return it with payment to the Counseling Office (during lunch)**. Students who have financial difficulty paying the fee should visit Mrs. West in the Career Center to determine if they are eligible for a fee waiver. (Funds for fee waivers are limited, so contact Mrs. West as soon as possible.) *Checks should be made payable to MBHS and should have the student's name and ID number written on them. There will be an online payment option beginning September 6th. Please visit www.mbhs.edu for more information.*

TEST DAY, STUDENTS MUST BRING AT LEAST TWO NUMBER TWO PENCILS AND THEIR OWN SCIENTIFIC OR GRAPHING CALCULATOR.

PAYMENTS WILL BE COLLECTED September 6– September 22, 2017 IN THE COUNSELING OFFICE

DURING LUNCH

Student Name _____

Student ID Number _____ Grade _____

Home Phone# _____

Parent's Signature _____ Eligible for Fee Waiver Yes No

MBHS Staff Only

Date Payment Received _____ MBHS Staff Initials _____ Paid By: Cash Check Online Fee Waiver