



Whitehall Central School District

Patrick Dee

Superintendent of Schools

Gregg Chappell

CSE Chairperson

B. Jeff Keller

Middle & High School Building Principal

Updated: January 5, 2017

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

This year the Whitehall Central School District is providing the opportunity for all 8th and 9th graders the opportunity to participate in the new PSAT 8/9™ assessment. The purpose of this assessment is to establish a baseline measurement of college and career readiness as your student enters high school. It also provides students a chance to preview the SAT™, PSAT/NMSQT™, and PSAT 10™ format and connect to AP courses.

What is the PSAT™ 8/9?

The PSAT 8/9™ is an assessment given to eighth- and ninth-graders that is closely aligned to the PSAT/NMSQT™ and PSAT™ 10. It consists of questions in Evidence-Based Reading and Writing and in Math.

What are the benefits of taking the PSAT 8/9 assessment?

It helps establish a baseline for students as they enter high school and begin preparing for college and career readiness. It also provides students with better access to data and personalized study through the online College Board and Khan Academy® resources.

When will my student take the PSAT 8/9 assessment? **UPDATED******

It will be administered on the following date: **Wednesday March 1st, 2017** during Periods 1-4.

How should my student prepare?

The best preparation is to deeply engage in classroom learning and practice skills over time. On test day, your student should answer all the questions to the best of his or her ability. It will also help if he or she gets plenty of sleep the night before test day.

What should my student bring on test day?

Your student will need two No. 2 pencils with soft erasers, an acceptable calculator, and a student ID number (their lunch code) or Social Security number (optional).

How long will the assessment take and how many questions are there?

Actual testing time is 2 hours and 25 minutes. There are 42 Reading questions, 40 Writing and Language questions, and 38 Math questions.

What should my student do if he or she doesn't know an answer?

Your student may encounter some difficult questions that he or she does not know how to answer. Advise your student that if this happens, not to get discouraged but to answer every question to the best of his or her ability.



Whitehall Central School District

Patrick Dee
Superintendent of Schools

Gregg Chappell
CSE Chairperson

B. Jeff Keller
Middle & High School Building Principal

A message for parents

The PSAT 8/9™ assessment will help your student prepare for the future. By taking the PSAT 8/9™, your student will learn which skills he or she needs to work on for continued success through high school and college. In addition, the PSAT 8/9™ will identify areas where your student excels and may want to consider taking higher-level courses, as well as areas he or she should focus on to improve academically. Please note that PSAT 8/9™ scores are not sent to colleges.

There was an informational parent night scheduled for Tuesday December 20th, 2016 located in the LGI of the Jr./Sr. High Building at 4:30 PM.

*****UPDATE*** If you did not attend, there will be another one offered on Wednesday January 25th at 4pm.**

Please mark on sheet below if you are interested.

How does my student receive PSAT 8/9™ scores?

Your student will receive a paper score report at school with a unique code giving him or her access to a robust online score report. The scores reported will grow to include every test your student takes that is part of the SAT Suite of Assessments (see collegeboard.org/sat-suite for more information). The online experience is designed to help you and your student understand the scores better and to use the feedback to build new skills based on a detailed breakdown of your student's performance.

Thank you for your continued collaboration and support in their education.

Sincerely,

Topher Montville
Middle School Guidance Counselor (6-8)

B. Jeff Keller
Middle & High School Building Principal

Permission to Participate in PSAT 8/9 Test Date

Please check a choice below, sign, date, and return to Guidance office:

- I would like my child to be registered to take the PSAT 8/9 test on March 1st during Periods 1-4.
- I decline the opportunity to have my child to be registered and to take the PSAT 8/9 test on March 1st.

Childs' Name

Parent Signature

Date



Whitehall Central School District

Patrick Dee
Superintendent of Schools

Gregg Chappell
CSE Chairperson

B. Jeff Keller
Middle & High School Building Principal

-
- ❑ **Please check here if you plan to attend the JANUARY 25th Parent information night presentation regarding the PSAT 8/9 @ 4:00pm**