

September 9, 2008

Dear Parents of Tenth Graders (Class of 2011):

On Saturday, October 18, 2008 at 8 a.m., Ardsley High School will administer the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (P.S.A.T./N.M.S.Q.T.).

Tenth graders request permission to take the P.S.A.T. to become more test wise, thereby possibly improving their score the following year. The College Board, while permitting sophomores to take the P.S.A.T.s, has not offered statistics to support the concept that "earlier is better." Scores recorded in the tenth grade cannot be used for scholarships or even recorded for college consideration. As a rule of thumb, The College Board recommends that students complete two years of a strong high school (Math A/B) mathematics program if they wish to achieve a representative score on the P.S.A.T.

We will allow tenth graders to take the P.S.A.T.s on a first-come first-serve basis, depending on numbers. If you want your child to take the P.S.A.T.s, please fill out the enclosed form and have him/her bring a \$30.00 check, made out to **Ardsley Union Free School District**, to the Guidance Office. Upon receipt of this fee, your child will receive an informational booklet.

I suggest you contact your child's counselor if you have any questions regarding the P.S.A.T.s. Our counselors are helpful in pointing out the pros and cons of your child's taking the test at this time.

Thank you very much for your support.

Very truly yours,

Dr. Jim Haubner  
Principal

JH/es  
Enc.