

January 15, 2018

Dear Parents, Students, and Staff:

Elementary and middle school students will be assessed through CMAS this spring. The testing window is open April 9-27, but a specific schedule of testing dates will be mailed out March. Grades 3-8 will be assessed in English Language Arts and Mathematics. Fourth and Seventh grades will also be assessed in Social Studies while Fifth and Eighth grades will assess in Science.

The state of Colorado selected to go with SAT instead of ACT during the 2017 assessment and are continuing with this same testing this year. The Colorado PSAT will be given to 9th and 10th grade students and the SAT will be given to 11th grade students. The assessments will be given April 10, 2018.

This year the CO PSAT 8-9 and CO PSAT 10 will take place of CMAS for 9th and 10th grade English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics. However, we will be required to administer CMAS Science and Social Studies for 11th grade students.

The SAT for 11th grade students has an **optional** essay component which must be registered for prior to February 14th. I have been in contact with students and many have let me know they wish to take the essay component so we will get them registered next week. Please visit with your child to make sure you as parents are in agreement with their choice. We will not be allowed to register after the deadline.

The SAT also includes an optional Student Search Service questionnaire. This provides information about the student to help connect them with colleges and scholarship programs based on their interest. Nearly 1,700 colleges use Student Search Service to look for students who match a range of factors such as the area where they live or go to school, their interests, and what they plan to study in college. Only eligible colleges, scholarship, and educational organizations can participate. They most often search expected high school graduation date, cumulative grade point average, and intended college major. Students can choose which optional questions they complete. Again, participation in this is optional, but does require a signed consent form from the student.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

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