

News release Oct. 20, 2015

1,400 sophomores took PSAT test for free

This is year four the district has given this test free to students. Test could cost students as much as \$25.00

The week of Oct. 12 was a busy one for high school sophomores. They were all taking the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT). "This is another example of the district's commitment to equity," noted Superintendent Gary Cohn. Without the district support students would be paying



varying amounts, based upon family income. It could cost a student as much as \$25.

Cohn further explains why the PSAT at tenth-grade is so important to a student's future. "The PSAT is an important first step to the college admissions process. Students who take the College Board exams also get free access to My College QuickStart, an online college, training center and career planning tool customized for each student. In just over a month, in early December, these students will get those PSAT scores. This gives them the rest of their sophomore year – and two more years in high school – to focus on areas they need to improve."

Originally the district gave PSAT free to juniors. Two years ago the district began offering it free to sophomores and added free SAT tests for juniors.

In spring 2016, high school juniors will take the SAT. These are students who got the benefit of free PSAT as sophomores. "We know students who take the PSAT are more likely to score higher on the SAT," noted Cohn.

"This gives our students a greater chance to score well, earn scholarships and secure placement in a college or university of their choice."

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