

Final steps for seniors and the SAT, IB and AP tests, and a story



### **SAT Prep Series for Seniors Continues!**

We are already halfway through our SAT prep series for those Seniors signed up to take the SAT on October 14th. Tomorrow and next Friday, our series continues with two paper-practice support sessions, where Mr. Chris Sura and Ms. Tama Salisbury will provide individualized support to students as they work through sections of a released exam. At these sessions, students should come prepared with areas of focus, so that our staff volunteers can make the most out of the hour we are spending together with participants. Interested seniors are asked to sign up in advance on the SAT page of the Grade Level Information Center at [www.pcGLIC.com](http://www.pcGLIC.com) so that we have the space and materials ready to go. New attendees will receive a printed copy of a full length practice test (with answers) for practice at home and for use at the session and at home. Not a senior? We are working on reimagining our SAT preparation program for juniors, so stay tuned! And, remember that Khan Academy has individualized practice for the SAT online at [www.khanacademy.org/sat](http://www.khanacademy.org/sat).

### **Thank you to our juniors and seniors who have signed up for the PSAT/NMSQT and SAT!**

Please watch for an email in the coming days from our test coordinator Trish King with important test day info, like what to bring, not to bring, and more.

### **Seniors taking the SAT, do you need a calculator?**

If you already have a calculator that is approved by the College Board, great -- please bring that with you for the test on Wednesday, October 14. If you are not sure if yours is approved, no worries: take a look at this link to find out.

<https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/sat/taking-the-test/calculator-policy>

If you do need a calculator, please sign up through the link below by noon on Monday, October 12. (If you don't sign up for one by the deadline, we will not be able to give you on the day

of the test.) On the day of the test, your proctor will give you the calculator, so you will be ready to go. Thanks for this!

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfslDxdOhFfM3V1DI7zKooajHkNYIXu-xFR7eAZ7ByeByWz\\_Q/viewform?gxids=7628](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfslDxdOhFfM3V1DI7zKooajHkNYIXu-xFR7eAZ7ByeByWz_Q/viewform?gxids=7628)

*From the Counseling Office...*

### **Seniors, let's start talking about your transcripts!**

Now that you have watched those college application videos while in your English classes, it's time to start getting those transcript requests in! So if you haven't already, be sure and get your Parchment account created by using the registration link that was emailed to you in late August. Transcript requests are free of charge for our currently enrolled students, so be sure and get your requests done in a timely manner.

And one more thing, a number of you that applied to schools on the Common Application have not requested your transcript yet. Log into Parchment as soon as you can and request your transcript to the Common App, and once it's all processed, the folks at Common App will take care of sending it to the colleges once you submit your applications. Any questions, feel free to reach out to Mrs. King at [tking@portageps.org](mailto:tking@portageps.org) in the Counseling Office.

### **IB, AP test registration starts today**

IB and AP Test Registration will open Thursday, October 1st and run through October 31st. The PC IB & AP testing schedule and registration pages are located on our registration website at [www.portagecentralexams.com](http://www.portagecentralexams.com). Payment is expected at the time of registration.

For IB test registrations, please go to the 2021 IB Test Registration tab on [www.portagecentralexams.com](http://www.portagecentralexams.com). Click the button for IB Test Registration and then fill out the personal information and identify which IB tests you are registering for. Read all the directions before submitting please. IB Tests are \$119 per test. Your confirmation page will have a link to Revtrak to pay.

For AP test registration, you will need a class join code for each AP test you are taking. These are located on the 2021 AP test registration tab at [www.portagecentralexams.com](http://www.portagecentralexams.com), and you will need to enter this join code on the College Board website linked to the registration page. You will need your College Board login information to register for AP tests. Follow the directions on the AP Test Registration page to register and pay for AP tests. AP Tests are \$95 per test. You will find a link to directions for AP test registration here

If you have questions about registration, please email Mr. Lancaster at [elancaster@portageps.org](mailto:elancaster@portageps.org).

### **Please help your son or daughter submit a school picture!**

Even though there will be no school picture day this year, the yearbook staff still wants to create class composites for every grade level and needs students to take and submit their own school

pictures. You don't need a professional photographer for this -- just your smartphone or a basic camera. Have someone take a vertical head-and-shoulders shot of the student. Then upload it to [www.hjeShare.com](http://www.hjeShare.com). (Our school code is 3604.) We've already received some really good-looking, simple shots of students that are perfect for this yearbook that's going to be like no other! Need details on how to do this? Check out the yearbook information tab at [www.pcGLIC.com](http://www.pcGLIC.com), and email Mrs. Alburtus with questions. Deadline for school pictures and senior photos is November 6.

### **Seniors, have you ordered your cap and gown yet?**

The Jostens' folks know this is a crazy year. If you have not already received a cap-and-gown packet, take a look at this link:

[https://issuu.com/jostens\\_scholastic/docs/201981\\_apa-103-21\\_gdp\\_sy21\\_grad-jwl\\_combo\\_full\\_cat?fr=sOTYxODE2NjQ3MDY](https://issuu.com/jostens_scholastic/docs/201981_apa-103-21_gdp_sy21_grad-jwl_combo_full_cat?fr=sOTYxODE2NjQ3MDY)

Since school is online so far this year, the folks from Jostens are asking that you place your orders online at [www.Jostens.com](http://www.Jostens.com). You can also order by calling (800) 567-8367 or send your order to: Jim Ross, 24208 Front st Suite B, Mattawan, MI 49071.

### **Having trouble with your Chromebook?**

This happens from time to time, but of course it is important to get it up and running fast so our students can keep up with their classes. So as soon as you are seeing signs of trouble, hit this link:

<https://portageps.org/departments/technology/1to1-computing/1-1-lostbroken/chromebook-repairs/>

A colleague from our Technology Department will then walk you through the steps ahead. Thanks for this!

### **Signing up for in-building support**

Thank you for continuing to sign your students up for in-building support each Thursday for the following week if they need that support. This helps us safely distribute students and staff across our support spaces. Here is a direct link to the weekly form:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSftHv2y1GRNcxlag1NhBTq8xYOBmdGnE81fB-df\\_Mevr7XaOA/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSftHv2y1GRNcxlag1NhBTq8xYOBmdGnE81fB-df_Mevr7XaOA/viewform)

### **A story about our incredible students**

Ann and I were out for a walk Saturday morning. A woman we often see but do not know stopped us. Her name is Laura. She is a friend of Lara Hobson, a Northern parent Ann became friends with years ago through teaching Sunday school when our and her kids were so young. Laura was out watering her plants, and she said she went to LoDo's the previous night. She and her husband were sitting outside in that small patio, and she saw three PC boys get out of their car. She said she wondered why they were not at the game... and then remembered the state rule and felt bad for them.

As they approached, the national anthem started at McCamley. She looked back over at the boys -- and they had stopped. In the middle of the parking lot. Standing, quiet, with their hands over their hearts.

She said in a world where so much is happening, she was grateful for how wonderful our kids are and for the community she is a part of.

I could not agree more. Thank you for helping to create the community we aspire to be.

Blessed to serve and be a member of this community for a good and long time now,

Eric Alburtus

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