

ANNE H. SMITH, ED.D.
Superintendent of Schools



SHAWN C. PETRETTI
Principal

DAVID A. SMITH
Assistant Principal

MATTITUCK-CUTCHOQUE U.F.S.D.
MATTITUCK JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

December 5, 2017

Dear Junior Parents,

We are writing to inform you that the CollegeBoard announced that on December 11th students can access their PSAT scores online. Those scores will be available by visiting <https://studentscores.collegeboard.org>. Students who do not have a CollegeBoard account will need to create one. **This is an important account so students should take care to keep their username and password accessible as they will use it extensively throughout the college application process.**

The full official score reports are scheduled to be sent to the school by the end of December and will be forwarded to students and parents as soon as they are received. Counselors are available to discuss and interpret scores for individual students by appointment or when they meet this winter for each junior's post-secondary planning meeting.

The PSAT which is comprised of two sections, Evidenced Based Reading and Math Problem Solving, is useful for students to identify areas to work on for the upcoming SAT exams in the spring of their junior year. The Evidenced Based Reading and Math sections of the test contain similar type of questions that will be on the SAT. **Scoring is based on a 160-760 scale for each section.** Please see the Score Report (available online) for more detailed information. Students can also visit www.satpractice.org/ for an individual study plan based on his/her test results as well as question and answer explanations. Student test books are also available in the guidance office.

In addition to being a practice test, the PSAT is also used for selecting junior students for the National Merit Scholarship Program. Of more than one million entrants, approximately 55,000 will be selected for recognition based on their selection index (found on the score report). There is no exact cutoff as the qualifying selection index score varies each year. Students selected for this honor will be notified in September 2018. If you would like more information on the National Merit Scholarship Program you can visit www.nationalmerit.org.

Group meetings with juniors will begin on January 18th to explain the college application process. All students have a Naviance Family Connection account. All parents were invited to create an account last year. Naviance is a web based program the Guidance Department utilizes to help students navigate through the college application process. **As part of this program students have free access to online SAT and ACT Prep.** Naviance is an excellent communication tool for counselors and parents as well. If you still need to create a parent account please contact the Guidance Office.

Following our group meetings in January, individual student and parent meetings will continue throughout the winter and spring of 2018. The college parent night will be held in February with further information to follow. As always, if you have any questions about the PSAT results or the college application process, please visit the guidance page at www.mufsd.com or contact the guidance office at 631-298-8471, ext. 3224.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Lynch".

Brian Lynch
Guidance Coordinator

College Search and Application Timeline

Freshman Year-

Complete Do What You Are Interest Inventory on Naviance
Utilize Free SAT Test Prep (Method Test Prep) on Naviance
Get involved in Extracurricular and or Volunteer Activities

Sophomore Year-

November – PreACT (practice ACT)
March-May-Meet with your Counselor to Ensure your Course Selections are Meeting College Entrance Requirements
Continue to Keep Track of Extracurricular Activities
Complete Career Cluster Finder and Investigate Careers on Naviance
Utilize Net Price Calculators on Individual College Websites for est. of College Costs
Register at NCAA Eligibility Center if interested in DI or DII College Athletics

Junior Year-

October- PSAT (Practice SAT)
December- PSAT Results returned
January- Group Meetings with Counselors (students will be asked to complete checklist items in Naviance including Career Interest Profiler, Junior Survey, Game Plan Survey, College Search, Resume, SAT and ACT Registration)
Jan-April- Individual Meetings with Students and Counselors to discuss Post-Secondary Plans
February- Parent College Night
March-August- SAT and ACT Tests for Juniors
March- Aug- Continued College Search, College Visits, Contact Coaches, Rough Drafts of Essays and Extracurricular Resumes
Utilize Net Price calculators on Individual College Websites for estimate of college costs
Utilize FAFSA Forecaster for estimate on your EFC (Expected Family Contribution) based on Federal Financial Aid formula

Senior Year-

September- Group Meetings and Individual Meetings with Counselors
Oct-December- Three more opportunities for students take SAT or ACT depending on their individual needs
Oct-December- Request Teacher Recommendations- usually two teacher recommendations and one counselor recommendation
Sept-December- Continue to Visit, Tour and Interview at Selected Colleges
October- January Complete CSS Profile (Financial Aid Form) if required by your college(s). Complete FAFSA (Free Application for Fed. Student Aid by your College's Deadline.
November- January- Applications are Submitted Based on Individual Student Needs and Application Deadlines
Dec- Jan- ED or EA Applicants Begin to Hear Back from Colleges
January-February- March-April- Students Begin to Receive Decisions from Colleges. April 1st is the Deadline to Which Most Colleges will adhere to in Notifying Students.
May- May 1st is the National Reply Date. Students Must Decide and Deposit by this Date to Save a Spot at the College of Their Choice.

Scholarship Lists are Prepared and Posted Monthly for all Local and Many National Scholarship Opportunities through the Guidance Office