**Junior Testing Information**

During a student’s junior year, they will have the opportunity to take several exams. The results help to show their readiness for college and other post-secondary options. Below, please find descriptions of the exams and other related information.

**PSAT/NMSQT**

The Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) is an assessment offered at Prairie for juniors that helps prepare them for the mandatory SAT that will be administered during the spring of their junior year. These exam scores are also used to qualify a student for National Merit Scholarships. *NOTE: Scores from this exam are considered for scholarship (NMSQT), only when taken during a student’s junior year.* *The school will be notified of a student’s qualification for the National Merit Scholarships the following August.*

This optional exam will be offered during the fall of a student’s junior year. (See the Prairie School website for dates and fees.) There will be a fee associated with this exam at the time of ordering.

**SAT**

The SAT score is nationally recognized by colleges as an entrance requirement for their institution. The SAT exam results show a student’s ability to succeed in the areas of Math, Reading, and Writing. This is a mandatory exam given at Prairie School during the spring of a student’s junior year.

*NOTE: College Board is the entity that oversees the preparation and scoring of the exam. They also have teamed up with Khan Academy to offer FREE practice and help for students preparing for the exam. (satpractice.org) If your student attended Prairie School during their sophomore year, they have already taken the PSAT 10 and created an account with Khan Academy to help them prepare for the SAT. See the College Board account for more details or login to* [*www.collegeboard.org*](http://www.collegeboard.org)*.*

*The SAT can be taken by a student again by scheduling and paying for it on their own.*

**ASVAB**

The ASVAB Career Exploration Program is a comprehensive career exploration and planning program that includes a multiple-aptitude test battery, an interest inventory, and various career planning tools designed to help you explore the world of work.  The eight areas tested are:  general science, arithmetic reasoning, word knowledge, paragraph comprehension, mathematics knowledge, electronics information, auto and shop information, and mechanical comprehension.   [www.asvab.com](http://www.asvab.com/)

Although optional, this exam is highly recommended. Results will be used during the Senior Capstone course taken during a student’s senior year to help determine career interests and path for the student after high school. The exam will be offered during the student’s junior year. (See the Prairie School website for date of exam.) There will be NO fee associated with this exam.

**ACT**

The ACT score is nationally recognized by colleges as an entrance requirement for their institution. The ACT exam results show a student’s ability to succeed in the areas of English, Math, Reading, Science, and Writing.

This exam is not offered at Prairie School. To learn more information about the exam, please visit act.org.

*NOTE: Both the SAT and ACT exam scores help determine entrance into colleges, but also help determine scholarship monies that may be available to your student should they be accepted to an institution of higher education. A student does not need to take both, but can, should they so choose to.*