



October 14, 2020

Dear Parent or Guardian of 8th Grade Student,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that all 8th grade students at Allendale-Fairfax Middle School will have the opportunity to take the Preliminary SAT 8/9 (PSAT 8/9) on October 29, 2020. The PSAT measures skills in critical reading, mathematics, and writing, all of which are important skills for college success and future planning. The PSAT 8/9 tests the same skills and knowledge as the SAT, PSAT/NMSQT, and PSAT 10—in a way that makes sense for eighth graders. It measures what they're already learning, shows them whether they're on track for college, and lets them know where they need the most improvement.

Students are recognized as SC Junior Scholars if they score 550 or higher on the Reading and Writing portion of the PSAT or 530 or higher on the Mathematics portion. This is a great accomplishment and honor.

Benefits of taking PSAT 8/9:

- Helps establish a baseline for students as they enter high school and begin preparing for college and career readiness.
- Identifies areas where students excel and may want to consider taking higher-level courses, as well as areas they should focus on to improve academically.
- Provides students with better access to data and personalized study through the online CollegeBoard and Khan Academy resources.

This test is only offered on-campus in-person with no virtual option. **The test will begin at 9:00 a.m. and take approximately 4 hours and 30 minutes; including breaks, test-related activities and lunch. Breakfast, lunch and transportation will be provided. All car riders are asked to be at school by 8:30. If a student is late, he/she will not be permitted to test. Students will report to their homeroom teacher when they arrive to school to check in and have breakfast.** All students will be expected to follow safety and social distancing procedures when scheduled to test on campus. These safety procedures include students wearing face coverings and maintaining social distancing during and after testing.

For additional information, including the calculator policy, practice tests and sample questions regarding this assessment, please refer to the PSAT 8/9 Student Guide on the CollegeBoard website at <http://collegeboard.org>.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. C. Price at 803-584-3489 or pricec@acs.k12.sc.us.

***Please note that PSAT 8/9 scores are not sent to colleges.**

Thank you,

Cecilie D. Price, M.Ed
School Counselor