



Greenwich Junior-Senior High School

"Building on a Tradition of Excellence"

Counseling Office

9/20/11

Brenda Facin, Secretary
Patrick D. Morris, School Counselor
Richard M. Zwirn, School Counselor

Dear Parent/Guardian of an 11th Grade Student:

We welcome your child back to school! I hope that summer was an enjoyable time and that students are recharged for a happy, productive school year. I am writing to provide information that will be helpful in planning during your child's Junior year.

The Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) will be offered at GCS on Wednesday, October 12th. The test fee is \$14.00, which will be collected when students register with Mrs. Facin, in the Counseling Office. The registration deadline is Friday, October 7th. Checks should be made out to "Greenwich Central School." I will be visiting eleventh grade classrooms to talk about the test, announce registration and hand out the publication, **2011 Official Student Guide to the PSAT/NMSQT**. It contains all of the specifics concerning the test and offers helpful test taking advice.

Who should take the PSAT?

Any student considering a four-year college should take the PSAT. Additionally, the two-year SUNY Ag and Tech schools are now requiring SATs, for placement, so the PSAT is also advisable for students considering SUNY Morrisville or SUNY Cobleskill. The PSAT is a good practice opportunity for the actual SAT I, which is a favored college admissions test. The PSAT results also provide useful diagnostic information for assessing readiness and identifying areas to be improved through preparation. PSAT results will not be released to colleges.

The PSAT is also the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. A very small percentage of students, nationwide, will qualify for corporate-sponsored scholarships based upon the results.

Recommended 2011-12 school-year dates for actual college admissions tests are below. Greenwich is not a test center for these dates. Most of our students choose Saratoga Springs or Queensbury as test centers.

Test	Description	Recommended Test Dates	Regular Registration Deadline
SAT	Three Scores- Math, Verbal, Writing Skills; 200-800 possible score on each.	May 5 June 2	April 19 May 8

10 Gray Avenue, Greenwich, New York 12834
(Phone) 518-692-9542 (FAX) 518-692-8503
Extension 4219
bfacin@greenwichcsd.org
pmorris@greenwichcsd.org
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Test	Description	Recommended Test Dates	Regular Registration Deadline
ACT	Four Scores and a Composite Score- English, Math, Reading, Science;	June 9	May 4

When registering for college admissions tests, online registration is strongly recommended.

SAT: <http://sat.collegeboard.org/home> **ACT:** <http://www.act.org/>

Please reinforce our communications with your child as to the importance of the junior year. It is the most current of the three school years reflected on the transcript at the time of college application. Junior year is also a good time to begin crystallizing college choices. To research colleges, log on to www.careercruising.com **Username: greenwich, Password: central.** You can identify schools using criteria including location, major, size of school, cost, etc. This is a good, initial “brainstorming” tool. I will be in contact throughout the year concerning other important information, suggestions and dates.

Some students and parents have inquired about National Honor Society. To be considered, a student’s cumulative grade point average, including all completed courses, must be at least a 90. After meeting this criterion, students will be asked to write essays concerning character, commitment and activity level. NHS appointment is not automatic; therefore, it is essential that candidates have impressive backgrounds and do a thorough job on essays.

I hope that the junior year will be a good one for all! As always, please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Pat Morris