

RANCHO BUENA VISTA HIGH SCHOOL PSAT/NMSQT Testing Information

**Administration Date: Wednesday, October 13, 2010
9th, 10th, & 11th graders***

***Seniors and students not taking the test will report to campus at 10:30 am**

What is this exam and why should my student take it?

The PSAT/NMSQT is a powerful diagnostic tool and indicator of student achievement on the SAT and ACT exams, which are required as part of the application process for many colleges. These exams also provide schools and teachers valuable information to guide student preparation for the SAT and ACT, helps them make adjustments to instruction, and provides useful information to parents and guidance counselors regarding future education options.

The **PSAT/NMSQT** (commonly known as the Practice SAT) measures critical reading, verbal reasoning, math-problem solving and writing skills. The test has four 25-minute sections (two verbal and two math) and one 30-minute section (writing skills). When taking the PSAT/NMSQT as an 11th grade student, it also serves as the qualifying exam for the National Merit Scholarship Foundation. Juniors who meet the entry requirements are recognized for their academic potential and could win Merit Scholarship Awards or Special Scholarships for college undergraduate study. Go to www.nationalmerit.org for more information.

How do I make sure there will be a test waiting for my student on test day?

This year, Gear-Up is paying for all 11th graders to take the test (if your student paid for the test on Registration Day, the Finance Office will be contacting them with their refund in the coming weeks). All other grades must pay a \$20 testing fee to the Finance Office **located at the back of the administration office.**

How can my student prepare?

Students can prepare for the PSAT by:

- Requesting a PSAT/NMSQT Student Guide from the College & Career Center located in the Counseling Office or the Gear-Up office
- Going to www.collegeboard.com/psat for sample questions and practice test answer explanations

Rosters for relocated classes and unscheduled students will be posted on the Counseling and AP office windows by Tuesday, October 12. Please read and listen to the daily bulletin for additional information.

**The fee for the exams is \$20 per exam.
Please make the check payable to: VUSD.**