# Understanding your PSAT Results

January, 2016

# What should I know by the end of this presentation?

- How to find out how you scored
- How your results compare to other students in your grade in the U.S.
- A good estimate of how you may score on the SAT
- How likely you are to be on track to succeed in first year college courses
- If there are AP courses that you should think about taking
- Where to go for more free practice

# What are the PSAT's?

- 4 year schools require entrance exams
- The SAT is one of two widely used entrance exams
- The PSAT is a practice
   SAT test

# Why did Penn Manor give all 9th, 10th, 11th graders the PSAT?

- To keep your post HS options open
- To make sure you know what will be expected on the SAT
- To help you identify areas you need to work on over the next few years

### Accessing scores online



# PSAT/NMSQT®

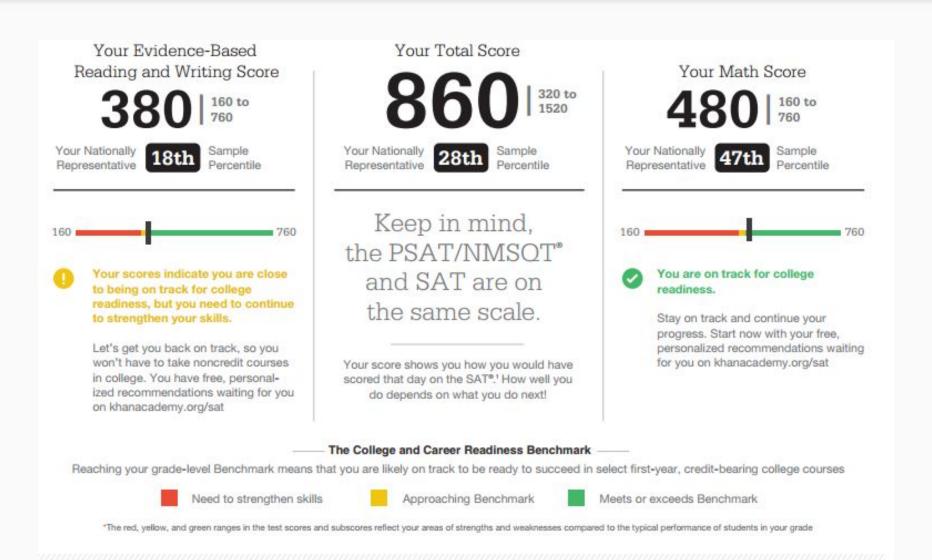
Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test

### Your Score Report



access code A02670146P

### Taking a closer look at your scores



# Are you ready for college courses?

- Need to strengthen skills
- Approaching Benchmark
- Meets or exceeds Benchmark
- Red: You need to work on strengthening your skills in this area
- Yellow: You have **not quite** met your grade-level
   Benchmark
- Green: You met your grade level Benchmark and you are on track to be successful in your courses in your first year of college

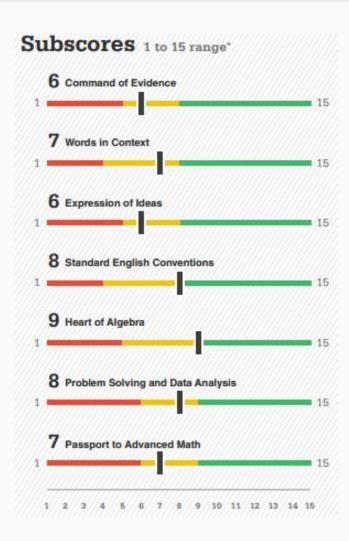
## A closer look at your scores

#### Test Scores 8 to 38 range\*



#### Cross-Test Scores 8 to 38 range

- 19 Analysis in History/Social Studies
- 18 Analysis in Science



# How do you compare? Average Scores for a sample of schools

- Penn State MainCampus: 1050-1200
- Elizabethtown: 1020-1240
- Millersville University: 950-1050
- Drexel: 1100-1300
- Temple: 1110-1230
- Messiah: 1050-1200

- U of Delaware: 1060-1280
- MIT: 1420-1570
- James Madison: 1180-1270
- Stanford: 1300-1500
- West Virgina Univ: 950-1100
- NYU: 1240-1450

## National Merit Scholarship

#### **▼ National Merit Scholarship Corporation**

National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) conducts the National Merit® Scholarship Program, an academic competition for recognition and college scholarships. To designate students who qualify for recognition in its 2017 competition, NMSC will consider the 2015 PSAT/NMSQT® Selection Index scores of some 1.5 million test-takers (usually high school juniors) who meet program entry requirements. For more information, please visit: www.nationalmerit.org.

If any of your responses to NMSC's "Entry Requirements" questions (see right-hand column) are inaccurate or there has been a change in plans that may affect program entry, write immediately to:

National Merit Scholarship Corporation Attn: Scholarship Administration 1560 Sherman Avenue, Suite 200 Evanston, IL 60201-4897

Include your name and home address along with your high school name, address, and six-digit code number.

#### Your NMSC Selection Index

124

NMSC uses a Selection Index based on PSAT/NMSQT scores as an initial screen of students who enter its scholarship programs. To calculate your Selection Index, double the sum of of your Reading, Writing and Language, and Math Test scores.

#### **Eligibility Information**

\*The asterisk (\*) next to your Selection Index means you do not meet entry requirements for the 2017 National Merit Scholarship Program. See your responses to entry requirements to the right.

NOTE: Students leaving high school and entering college in 2018 or later must take the PSAT/NMSQT again in their 3<sup>rd</sup> year (junior year) of grades 9–12 to enter the National Merit Scholarship Program.

#### **Entry Requirements**

(Information you provided on your answer sheet)

High school student:

YES

Year to complete high school and enroll full-time in college:

2018

Years to be spent in grades 9-12:

4

U.S. Citizenship:

NO, but I am a U.S. lawful permanent resident (or have applied for permanent residence, the application for which has not been denied) and I intend to become a U.S. citizen at the earliest opportunity allowed by law.

### The next steps

#### Your Scores: Next Steps

Your score indicates that you are already likely able to:

Reading Test

Improve your skills by focusing on:

Revise text as needed to improve the exactness or content appropriateness of word choices within somewhat challenging texts

Retain or add information or ideas to a piece of a text to support claims or points in somewhat challenging text

Revise somewhat challenging text to ensure that information is presented in the most logical order



Retain or add information or ideas to a piece of text to support claims or points in challenging text

Use a variety of sentence structures to accomplish a rhetorical purpose such as persuading an audience

Revise text as needed to improve the exactness or content appropriateness of word choices within challenging texts

#### Writing and Language Test

- Draw reasonable conclusions from somewhat challenging texts
- Describe the overall structure of a somewhat challenging text

Identify claims and counterclaims explicitly stated in a somewhat challenging passage



Draw reasonable inferences and logical conclusions from challenging texts

Analyze information presented quantitatively in such forms as graphs, tables, and charts and relate that information to information presented in somewhat challenging text

Determine how the selection of specific words shapes meaning and tone in a challenging passage

#### Math Test

Interpret a linear inequality in one variable with rational coefficients that represents a context. Select the equation of a line of best fit and interpret the slope and intercept of the line in the context of the situation (when a linear model is appropriate)

- I Interpret sample statistics understanding and using margin of error
- Solve and interpret a quadratic function or equation that represents a context and requires multiple steps
- Calculate and interpret frequency distributions using tables and other representational methods



- Determine how a graph may be affected by a change to its equation
- Determine the value of a constant or coefficient for an equation with no solution or infinitely many solutions
- Using a specified model, make a prediction and compare the predicted values with the actual values in the data set
- Within a context, compare the center of two separate data sets with different spreads
- Determine whether two events are independent given their probabilities

# Your homework assignment

- Be on the lookout for your scores in an email from the Collegeboard if you did not already get it!
- Log in and see how you compare and where you need to improve and make a plan to do it!



### In summary (What you should know)

- Where to find and how to interpret scores
- How you scored compared to other students in your grade
- What areas you need to improve upon in order to be ready for college classes
- Where you can go next to start taking steps to prepare for college
- Where you can go to decide what AP classes you should consider taking during your high school career

#### **GRADUATION PROJECT REVIEW**

Go to the PMHS webpage and click on the Graduation Project link on right side

#### http://blogs.pennmanor.net/highschool/

Take a look at the Graduation Project Tasklist

Determine your starting point and make progress during HR time today!

Counselors will be around to check on you.