



Maple Valley Schools

11090 Nashville Hwy
Vermontville, MI 49096

Phone: 517.852.9275
Fax: 517.852.2283



Maple Valley Jr./Sr. High School

Dear Jr./Sr. High Parents,

As Maple Valley Jr./Sr. High returns from Spring Break, students in grades 8th, 9th, and 10th will be participating in the PSAT on April 10th. Below you will find important information regarding this upcoming assessment.

- **College Board PSAT® Evidence-Based Reading & Writing and Math (Wednesday, April 12th)** - The SAT is a globally recognized college admission test that's accepted at all U.S. colleges. Prior to taking this test in the 11th grade, students participate in the Preliminary SAT (PSAT). Specifically, 8th graders will participate in the PSAT 8/9, Freshmen will participate in the PSAT 8/9, and Sophomores will participate in the PSAT 10. On this test, students will be measured in reading, math, and writing skills that they learned in high school. This test is also important for school and district accountability purposes. Below is important information regarding the PSAT:
 - The PSAT will begin at 7:55 on Wednesday, April 10th. Once school-wide testing has begun, late students are not permitted to begin their test. As a result, **students must be on time to participate in the test**. Please speak with your child of the importance of being on time to this test, particularly if they drive themselves to school.
 - No cell phones or electronic devices are allowed during testing. Students are to keep these devices in their lockers.
 - Students have created College Board accounts in preparation for testing. All preparation materials are on the Bluebook site and students may take several preparation tests.
 - You can find more information regarding the PSAT assessments at the College Board's website:
 - [Parents Guides to the PSAT 10](#)
 - [Parents Guide to the PSAT 8/9](#)
 - The PSAT can benefit your child in the following ways:
 - It identifies their academic strengths and weaknesses early in high school, when there's plenty of time to improve before college.
 - It lets them know which [Advanced Placement \(AP\)](#) courses they're most likely to do well in.
 - It's a great way to practice for the PSAT/NMSQT in 11th grade, which qualifies them for the National Merit Scholarship Program and a chance to win recognition and money for college.
 - When they take the PSAT 10, your child can opt in to [Student Search Service](#) and connect to over \$300 million in [scholarships](#). [Learn more about scholarships.](#)
 - It's a great way to practice for the [SAT](#), a test that's an important part of college applications.

Maple Valley will provide a safe and secure environment with enriching experiences that cultivate learning.

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- Your child can use their PSAT 10 score to get a free, personalized SAT practice plan through [Official SAT Practice on Khan Academy®](#).
- **M-STEP Science and Social Studies (Wednesday, April 24th) 8th Grade Only-** 8th grader students will be participating in the M-Step assessments for Science and Social Studies. Your 8th grader will be familiar with the M-Step as this assessment is given in grades 3-8. 8th graders will only be participating in the Science and Social Studies portion of the M-Step, not Reading or Math.
 - No cell phones or electronic devices during the test.
 - You can find more information regarding the M-Step here: [M-Step Assessments](#)

Please take the time to speak with your child about the importance of these upcoming assessments. Stress the importance of good sleep the night before the test and a healthy breakfast the morning of the test. Thank you for your support!

Beth Huntley

Beth Huntley

Curriculum, Instruction,
and Assessment Coordinator

Tim Goggins

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Jr./Sr. High Principal

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