

January 28, 2010

Dear Sophomore Parent:

The College Board and the Scottsdale Unified School District have entered into a partnership to provide your student with a wonderful opportunity. On Tuesday, February 16, 2010 each of our district's sophomores will take the Preliminary SAT Scoring Service (PSSS). This is being offered free of charge to all of our sophomore students. We feel strongly that this test will provide you, your student, and the district with valuable information concerning their academic progress and potential. We think this is so important that we will be paying for and administering this test during our regular school day.

We are taking this bold initiative in order to achieve many goals. Among the most important are:

- To provide early practice for taking the PSAT during their junior year. Statistics indicate significant improvement in PSAT performance by taking the PSSS in the sophomore year.
- To gain diagnostic information regarding the student's academic performance with respect to college success and the Arizona Standards. Parents and students will receive a comprehensive Student Score Report, which provides a question-by-question report and prescriptive suggestions for improvement.
- To help identify students with academic potential for more rigorous coursework. The data provided will allow the identification of those students who should be encouraged, or who have the potential to take Advanced Placement classes.

Please note that students who took the PSAT in October of 2009 are not eligible to take the PSSS in February because questions from the PSAT were used to create the PSSS. During the fall of your student's junior year they will be able to take the PSAT to prepare them for the SAT. Please be aware that the PSAT will not be funded through the district for juniors. If you have any questions, please contact our assessment office at 480-484-6197.

Sincerely,