

September 15, 2011

**PSAT on October 12th**

Dear Juniors, Sophomores and Parents:

**Four Rivers will be administering the PSAT on Wednesday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011.**

The exam will be given during the school day for maximum student participation and to alleviate the stressor of taking the exam on a weekend. The results of the PSAT, which are sent back to schools in December, provide a detailed description of the student's performance in critical reading, mathematics and writing skills. The information gathered from this exam will help guide students, families and Four Rivers staff as we develop post-secondary plans for each student. Additionally, taking the PSAT in the junior year makes students eligible for potential national scholarships.

**All Juniors are expected to take the PSAT** and they will be receiving a *Student Guide to the PSAT* in their Junior Seminar class next week. We are encouraging as many **sophomores** as possible to also take the PSAT this year, and interested sophomores will also receive the *Student Guide to the PSAT* from their advisors. The guide includes information about the logistics of the exams, scholarship competitions, preparing for the test, and a full-length practice test. You can find additional information on the PSAT by checking the web site [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) which provides detailed information about the test, including additional practice questions for students seeking to preview the type of questions on the exam. Prior studying of the format and style of questions helps students increase performance on standardized tests. Entering this exam, or any other standardized exam, without preparing, may increase anxiety and decrease potential performance.

**The PSAT contains the same types of math, reading and writing questions as those found on the SAT.** It also measures a student's score against other students of the same age across the country, just like the SAT does. A student's score on the PSAT does not count in the college admissions process and will not be sent to any college. The score is only reported to Four Rivers and to the student. Again, this information will be used to guide how to proceed with the students post-secondary education plan, whether that may include a four-year university, community college, technical or vocational training, etc.

**Please complete the form below and return it to Carolyn Wood by Friday, October 7th. There will be a fee of \$13.00 for the test. Students who are on the free or reduced lunch program at school are eligible for a fee waiver.**

Sincerely, 

Andy Stenson  
College Counselor & Academic Support Director

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**2011 PSAT Registration Form and \$13.00 Payment**

*Return this form to Ms. Wood by October 7, 2011*

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_

- Payment Method (circle one)     Check payable to FRCPS
- Cash
- Request fee Waiver if on Free and Reduced Lunch Program