

December 7, 2011

To the Parents and Guardians of the Classes of 2013 and 2014,

This past October your son or daughter took the PSAT. The PSAT is an opportunity for your child to receive feedback on particular skills necessary to perform well on future standardized examinations required for college admissions. For students who do well on the PSAT in their junior year, it is also an opportunity to enter the competition for scholarships from the National Merit Scholarship Corporation.

We recently received your child's PSAT score reports and gave back the results during the Sophomore and Junior class meetings this week. We encourage you to ask your child to share their results with you. While many colleges and universities use the SAT in their admission process, the PSAT scores are not used by colleges for admission, and only test-takers, parents, and Wilbraham & Monson Academy receive the scores.

Your child received their PSAT score report and their original test book. PSAT scores are reported on a scale of 20 to 80 for each section of the test: Critical Reading, Math, and Writing. Score reports include national percentiles, which allow students to compare their scores with other students in their grade level who have taken the PSAT. The score report also lists the number of the question, correct answer, the student's answer, and level of difficulty for every question on the test. In order to best use these results for preparation for the SAT, we encourage each student to review these answers along with their original test booklet.

Finally, in the "Next Steps" section of the score report, each student can receive personalized feedback on their scores by visiting www.collegeboard.com/quickstart and entering their online access code. We recommend visiting this site as your child can see projected SAT scores based on their test performance, learn how to improve them, and find college and career planning information.

We hope that both you and your child will review this score report and take advantage of the information it provides in order to prepare for future standardized tests. If you are interested in formal SAT preparation, please note that the Summit Educational Group will be offering a comprehensive test prep program beginning January 8 for any interested juniors and that financial aid is available. Parents of juniors should already have received complete details about this course from Summit. If you have further questions about this program, please call Summit at 1.800.698.8867.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at 413.596.9105.

Sincerely,

Maureen A. Kelly
Associate Director of College Counseling