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Dear Families,

Spring break is almost here! We are sure that you, as well as your student(s), are ready for this. Before everyone breaks next week we wanted to update you about some important upcoming events, particularly in regards to state testing.

Before we review dates and times of the tests, we want you to know these tests are required state assessments and as a public school we are mandated to administer these. These are not optional for our students. With that being said, we deeply want you to understand these scores in no way reflect a complete and accurate picture of your child's learning. These tests do not take into account the countless hours your child has spent volunteering at your church or local organization, their passion for social justice or their desire to be honest and humble. It does not account for the clubs, sports teams, or any of the other non-academic ventures they participate in. All of these things add to your child's knowledge of themselves and the world around them, and *that*—while not tested—*is just as important*. So please know that, while we want our students to do the best they can on these tests, we know this only represents a small portion of the wealth of knowledge each of them holds. So with that in mind, please read the information below on each of the test.

## **PSAT/SAT**

**Students in grades 9** will take the PSAT on April 11<sup>th</sup> @ Gateway Church in Zeeland.  
8265 Felch St, Zeeland, MI 49464  
Arrive at Gateway between 7:45 and 8:00

**Students in grades 10** will take the PSAT on April 12<sup>th</sup> @ Gateway Church in Zeeland.  
8265 Felch St, Zeeland, MI 49464  
Arrive at Gateway between 7:45 and 8:00

**Students in grades 11** will take the SAT on April 11<sup>th</sup> and the ACT Workkeys on April 12<sup>th</sup> @ Gateway Church in Zeeland.  
8265 Felch St, Zeeland, MI 49464  
Arrive at Gateway between 7:45 and 8:00

Families should have received a student guide in the mail to help in understand these tests. As well, teachers have been prepping students for the PSAT and SAT in their classes. Students **MUST** arrive no later than 8:00 AM to the testing site. It is important all students begin testing at the same time. If students are late, they may be asked to attend a make-up session on a different day.

Students must bring the following with them on the test day:

- Acceptable photo ID
- Two No. 2 pencils with soft erasers; no pens or mechanical pencils
- Acceptable calculator (Please refer to [collegeboard.org](http://collegeboard.org) for a list of calculators) (for use only on sections permitted)

We also recommend that students bring:

- A watch that has no audible alarm or communications/recording capabilities
- A bag or backpack (which must be stored in the hallway)
- A snack and drink (which must be packed away during testing)
- Extra batteries and backup calculator

For more information regarding this please visit [sat.org/test-day](http://sat.org/test-day). Please also see attached checklist to prepare for testing day.

## M-STEP

As you can see from the table below students in grades 3-8 and 11 will also take the M-STEP. This test is administered on campus so please plan to bring your student to the Homestead Campus on the appropriate day.

|                 | M-STEP Math      | M-STEP ELA       | M-STEP Science | M-STEP Social Studies | PSAT 8/9 | PSAT 10  | SAT      | ACT work keys |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------------|----------|----------|----------|---------------|
| <b>Grade 3</b>  | May 3, 4, 11     | May 3, 4, 11     |                |                       |          |          |          |               |
| <b>Grade 4</b>  | May 3, 4, 11     | May 3, 4, 11     | May 3, 4, 11   |                       |          |          |          |               |
| <b>Grade 5</b>  | April 19, 20, 27 | April 19, 20, 27 |                | April 19, 20, 27      |          |          |          |               |
| <b>Grade 6</b>  | May 9, 10, 11    | May 9, 10, 11    |                |                       |          |          |          |               |
| <b>Grade 7</b>  | May 16,17,18     | May 16,17,18     | May 16,17,18   |                       |          |          |          |               |
| <b>Grade 8</b>  | April 12 and 18  | April 12 and 18  |                | April 12 and 18       |          |          |          |               |
| <b>Grade 9</b>  |                  |                  |                |                       | April 11 |          |          |               |
| <b>Grade 10</b> |                  |                  |                |                       |          | April 12 |          |               |
| <b>Grade 11</b> |                  |                  | April 12       | April 12              |          |          | April 11 | April 12      |

If you have questions, please feel free to contact Brook Drooger at [brook.drooger@icademyglobal.org](mailto:brook.drooger@icademyglobal.org) or at 616-610-0031.

Have a fabulous spring break!

# Test Day Checklist

## FOR SAT and PSAT

### What to Bring

- [Acceptable photo ID](#)
- Two No. 2 pencils with erasers
- [An approved calculator](#)

### Nice to Have

- A watch (without an audible alarm)
- Extra batteries and backup equipment—you'll have to ask for permission to access them. They cannot be on your desk during the test.
- A bag or backpack
- A drink or snacks (for your break)
- Breakfast before you arrive

### What Not to Bring

- Any devices, including digital watches, that can be used to record, transmit, receive, or play back audio, photographic, text, or video content (with the exception of CD players used for Language with Listening Subject Tests only)
- Audio players/recorders, tablets, laptops, notebooks, Google Glass, or any other personal computing devices
- iPods or other MP3 players
- iPads or other tablet devices
- Laptops, notebooks, PDAs or any other personal computing devices
- Any texting device
- Cameras or any other photographic equipment
- Separate timers of any type
- Protractors, compasses, rulers
- Highlighters, colored pens, colored pencils
- Pamphlets or papers of any kind
- Dictionaries or other books—there are no exceptions, even if English is not your first language
- Food or drinks (except for during breaks), unless approved by the College Board's Services for Students with Disabilities. [Learn more about testing with accommodations.](#)

## **Turn Off All Electronic Devices**

You'll need to turn off all electronic devices during the test and even during breaks. This includes cellphones. Be sure to turn off your watch alarm, if you have one.

Why? Test centers are serious about security and quiet, so prohibited devices—which include cellphones, tablets, and MP3 players—must be turned off and put under your desk. Better yet: Leave them at home.

## **If You Bring or Use Prohibited Devices**

The test administration staff is encouraged to collect and hold phones and other prohibited electronic devices during the test administration, including break periods, or to deny admission to anyone who is in possession of a prohibited electronic device.

If your device makes noise or you are seen using it at any time, including during breaks, you may be dismissed immediately, your scores can be canceled, and the device may be confiscated and its contents inspected. The College Board is not responsible for loss or damage to personal items, including electronic devices, while you are in the test center.