

# Standardized Testing Information

## **PSAE – Prairie State Achievement Exam – Grade 11**

The PSAE measures student achievement in Reading, Math, Science, and Writing. Students must complete the PSAE to receive a diploma in the state of Illinois. Day 1 of the PSAE is a complete ACT exam.

## **ACT – Grade 11 (optional opportunities in grade 10 and 12)**

The ACT is a college admission exam. Most colleges use the ACT as part of their admissions process. All students will take the ACT as part of the PSAE process. Many students choose to take the test more than once to maximize their score.

## **SAT – Grade 11 (optional opportunities in grade 10 and 12)**

The SAT is a college admission exam. Most colleges accept either the ACT or SAT. Most BNHS students focus their efforts on the ACT as it is a mandatory part of the state testing. Some students who are seeking admission to highly competitive colleges may consider taking both exams as a way to maximize their score, but this is rarely necessary.

SAT Registration Info: <http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/sat/reg.html>

## **SAT II Subject Tests – Grade 11 or 12**

SAT II Subject Tests measure knowledge in specific content areas. The tests may be required by high competitive colleges and are taken in addition to the ACT or SAT. Students determine which Subject Tests to take based on the admission requirements of a specific college. Many colleges do NOT require Subject Tests.

<http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/sat/about.html>

## **PSAT-NMSQT – Grade 11 (optional “practice” testing grade 10)**

The PSAT is NOT an admissions test; students are not required to take the test for college admission. The PSAT serves two basic purposes – it is excellent practice for the SAT and students who have exceptional scores can qualify for the National Merit Scholarship program. The test is normally given the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in October. See your counselor for registration information.

<http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/psat/about/scholarships.html>

## **PLAN - Grade 10**

The PLAN is a pre-ACT test which provides excellent practice for the ACT. It may also be used by BNHS as a placement tool for the following year's classes. The PLAN results generate a “predicted” ACT score that is helpful for college planning.