

Dear 8th Grade Families,

I hope you are all doing well! With the SHSAT coming up tomorrow, I want to acknowledge that many students might be feeling a bit nervous, and that's completely normal.

Please encourage your child to take some time to unwind this afternoon. Enjoy an early dinner together and spend the evening doing a relaxing activity or diving into an engaging book. A good night's sleep will help them feel more confident and ready to tackle the test.

Below are the details about the exam:

What time should I arrive?

Students should plan on arriving at MS 447 at regular entry time at 8:30 AM. The test will begin around 9 am.

Where should I enter?

Students will enter at 500 Pacific Street (our regular morning entry site) and they will go straight upstairs to the third floor using our designated staircase. Students will be given rooms to report to the day before the test. If they forget where to go, there will be posters on the third floor to guide them.

What should I bring?

Several #2 pencils with erasers (we will have extras here if needed). Some rooms are cool and some are very hot. Please dress in a way you can adjust for comfort.

Can I have snacks?

You should bring a water bottle which you can keep on the floor throughout the test. Snacking during the test is not permitted.

How long is the test?

The test is 180 minutes (three hours) long. You must stay in the room until the entire time period has passed, even if you have finished the test. You must sit quietly until everyone in the room is finished with the exam. If you have extended time accommodations, you will automatically be given double time (6 hours). Double time will include two 15 minute breaks, one will be used to eat lunch, if needed.

Do I need a ticket?

No, your child will not need a ticket to take the test. We will be printing them at school and holding on to them for test day.

Can I bring a cell phone or other electronics?

Phones and listening devices must be locked in Yondr pouches upon arriving at your test room. If you have any other electronic devices, they should be stored in your backpack. Your backpack should be placed in the front of the room. **Calculators are NOT allowed.**

Will I be allowed to go to the bathroom during the test?

Yes. One person can leave the room at a time and must take the designated hall pass. The time spent in the bathroom is part of your child's 180 minutes of test time. They will NOT be granted that time back if they leave the testing room unless they have a testing accommodation.

How will dismissal be handled?

Dismissal will be at 2:47 PM as regularly scheduled.

Students without Testing Accommodations:

- Students do not have a formal break during the test. They may use the bathroom, and this time out of the testing room counts as part of the 180 minutes.
- Lunch will be scheduled for period 6 (after the duration of the exam)

Students with Testing Accommodations:

- If you have extended time, there will be two 15 minute breaks, students can eat snacks during these breaks, school lunch will be provided if requested during one of the break
- If students finish the test anytime after their first 180 minutes, they can join their classes for the remainder of the day

Feeling Sick on the Day of the Exam?

If you feel sick, please stay home. You will be able to make-up the exam. Make-up dates are November 16th or 17th and December 7th or 8th. Make-ups will take place at a central location that has yet to be determined. We will be in contact with you and your family after the testing date with information and next steps for administration of the make-up exam.

If you are LATE for school?

If your child arrives after 8:55am, they will not be able to test. They will automatically be registered to test on one of the make-up dates.

What if I am NOT taking the test?

For students not taking the test, you are expected to still come to school on time otherwise you will be marked absent. During the day you will have an alternate schedule and work will be provided.

Make-Up Testing:

For students who missed the October 30th test date, you can re-submit make-up registration requests in MySchools, between October 30th and November 4th. You will be able to access your test ticket on MySchools and the school will provide you with a paper copy a few days before your child's exam date. The new ticket will be updated to reflect the new date and testing location.

Warm wishes,

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