

The PSAT 8/9

**NYGEAR UP State
Conference
April 18, 2016**

What is the PSAT 8/9?

- ▶ The PSAT 8/9 is an assessment given to eighth and ninth-graders that is closely aligned to the PSAT/NMSQT™ and PSAT™ 10. It consists of questions in Evidence-Based Reading and Writing and in Math.
- ▶ The PSAT 8/9 is a test that will help NY GEAR UP students figure out what they need to work on most so that they are ready for college.
 - ▶ It will help prepare NYGEAR UP students for the PSAT 10 in year 4 of the grant.
- ▶ The PSAT 8/9 focuses on the few things that evidence shows matter most for college and career success and provides districts and schools with unparalleled benefits.

What are the benefits of taking the PSAT 8/9 assessment?

- ▶ It helps establish a baseline for students as they enter high school and begin preparing for college and career readiness.
- ▶ It also provides students with better access to data and personalized study through the online College Board and Khan Academy® resources.
- ▶ By taking the PSAT 8/9, your student will learn which skills he or she needs to work on for continued success through high school and college.
- ▶ In addition, the PSAT 8/9 will identify areas where your student excels and may want to consider taking higher level courses, as well as areas he or she should focus on to improve academically.
- ▶ Test results will let 9th grade students know if they should check out AP World History or AP European History through AP potential.

What are the benefits of taking the PSAT 8/9 assessment?

- ▶ Extensive data and reporting resources help educators identify skill gaps and improve instruction from their students' PSAT 8/9 results.
- ▶ The electronic Student Data File allows educators to manage student assessment data to inform instruction and educational decisions, such as student placement in courses and intervention groups.
- ▶ The score reports give students comprehensive, personalized feedback on their test performance, allowing them to see which questions they answered incorrectly and which academic skills they should work to improve.
- ▶ Offering the PSAT 8/9 to all students helps create a college-going culture, sparking college-going discussions and introducing all students to opportunities available after high school.
- ▶ The College Board offers personalized college and career planning tools that allow students to search online for colleges, explore majors and careers, and more.

How NYGEAR UP students can get ready for the PSAT 8/9

- ▶ The best preparation is to deeply engage in classroom learning and practice skills over time.
- ▶ The same habits and choices that lead to success in school will help students get ready for the PSAT 8/9 and the PSAT 10.
- ▶ The best way to prepare for the PSAT 8/9:
 - ▶ Take challenging courses
 - ▶ Do your homework
 - ▶ Prepare for tests and quizzes
 - ▶ Ask and answer lots of questions

Test Dates

- ▶ **Multiple Testing Windows in Two Seasons**

- ▶ Fall testing: Sept. 26, 2016 to Jan. 27, 2017
- ▶ Spring testing: Feb. 21 to April 14, 2017

- ▶ **NYGEAR UP students will test in the Fall**

- ▶ Fall testing for PSAT 8/9 is available from Sept. 26, 2016 through Jan. 27, 2017. Materials should be returned for scoring once testing is concluded at your school.
- ▶ Scores will be available online about two months after answer sheets are received.

How does my student receive PSAT 8/9 scores?

- ▶ Your student will receive a paper score report at school with a unique code giving him or her access to a robust online score report.
- ▶ The scores reported will grow to include every test your student takes that is part of the SAT Suite of Assessments (see collegeboard.org/sat-suite for more information).
- ▶ The online experience is designed to help you and your student understand the scores better and to use the feedback to build new skills based on a detailed breakdown of your student's performance.

Test Content and Structure

- ▶ Continued emphasis on reasoning alongside a clearer, stronger focus on the knowledge, skills, and understandings most important for college and career readiness and success.
- ▶ Greater emphasis on the meaning of words in a variety of contexts and on how word choice shapes meaning, tone, and impact.
- ▶ Focus on math that matters most, including problem solving, data analysis, algebra, and advanced mathematical concepts.
- ▶ Rights-only scoring (a point for a correct answer but no deduction for an incorrect answer; blank responses have no impact on scores).

Common Empirical Backbone

The Redesigned SAT: Evidentiary Foundation

*And PSAT 8/9,
PSAT 10,
And PSAT/NMSQT*

Evidentiary Foundation

In this section, we turn to a discussion of the evidence base supporting the fundamental changes being made to the SAT. This discussion, focusing first on Evidence-Based Reading and Writing and Essay and then on Math, helps relate central features of the new test to the design principles described in Section I.

It should be noted at the outset that what follows is not a point-by-point account of each element of the redesigned SAT and the research supporting it. Rather, the discussion more globally addresses important evidence undergirding several major design choices. This evidence base will be a living document; we will refine and update it as new evidence about the essential requirements for college and career readiness accumulates.

EVIDENTIARY FOUNDATION FOR THE REDESIGNED SAT'S EVIDENCE-BASED READING AND WRITING TESTS AND ESSAY

Two tests comprise the redesigned SAT's Evidence-Based Reading and Writing section:

- ▶ A **Reading Test** focused on the assessment of students' comprehension and reasoning skills in relation to appropriately challenging prose passages (sometimes paired, or associated with one or more informational graphics) across a range of content areas, and
- ▶ A **Writing and Language Test** focused on the assessment of students' revising and editing skills in the context of extended prose passages (sometimes associated with one or more informational graphics) across a range of content areas.

The optional **Essay** is focused on the assessment of students' skill in developing a cogent and clear written analysis of a provided source text.

- ▶ Deeply informed by best available evidence
- ▶ Focused on what matters most for college and career readiness
- ▶ Pedagogically appropriate at each grade level
- ▶ Same content domains
- ▶ Common vertical scale
- ▶ Subscores for all assessments

Inside the PSAT 8/9

- ▶ **Reading Test**
 - ▶ <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-8-9/inside-the-test/reading>
- ▶ **Writing and Language Test**
 - ▶ <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-8-9/inside-the-test/writing-language>
- ▶ **Math Test**
 - ▶ <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-8-9/inside-the-test/math>

Grade–Appropriate Reading

PSAT™ 8/9

PSAT™ 10 &
PSAT/NMSQT®

SAT®

Draw fairly simple, one-step conclusions spelled out clearly in the text

Draw a more subtle inference to reach the right conclusion from a text

Perform several steps to draw the right conclusion from a text

Identify relationships based on multiple, fairly straightforward pieces of info stated in the text

Infer somewhat more complicated relationships based on more subtle pieces of info stated in the text

Infer more complex relationships from the text by piecing facts or incidents together

Determine explicit meaning from the graphic or text

Recognize trends in graphical data

Synthesize information from a graphic and passage

Grade–Appropriate Writing and Language

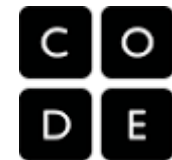
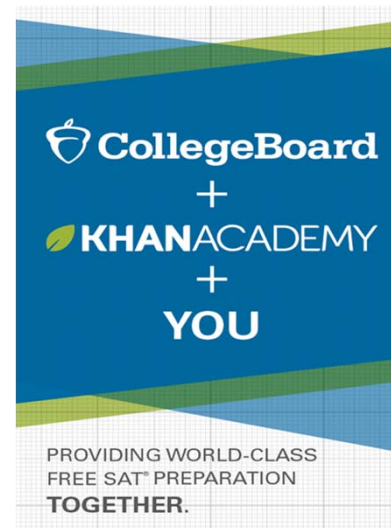
PSAT™ 8/9	PSAT™ 10 & PSAT/NMSQT®	SAT®
Use punctuation effectively in simple contexts, such as using commas to separate items in a list	Use punctuation effectively in somewhat challenging contexts, such as using a colon to introduce a list	Use punctuation effectively in challenging contexts, such as using a semicolon to link independent clauses
Edit straightforward sentences that pose some challenge, such as sentences with an introductory phrase	Edit compound and complex sentences, including sentences with introductory phrases and clauses	Edit syntactically challenging sentences, such as lengthy sentences that include several clauses
Accurately incorporate basic information from graphics into a text	Accurately incorporate somewhat detailed or nuanced information from graphics into a text	Incorporate accurate, specific, and complex information from graphics into a text

Grade–Appropriate Math

PSAT™ 8/9	PSAT™ 10 & PSAT/NMSQT®	SAT®
Many items requiring one or two steps to solve	Many items requiring 2 or more steps to solve	Emphasis on multi-step problems
May require the use of common geometric equations	May require the use of common geometric equations and spatial reasoning	Requires the use of geometry concepts and reasoning
Includes ratios, proportions, percents, introductory probability and statistics	Requires comparing linear and exponential growth	Includes statistics topics such as sampling and inferring correlation and causation from a research method
May require the use of properties of right triangles to solve problems	Requires the use of trigonometric relationships	Requires the use of trigonometry

Benefits to students

- + **Open, transparent, research based and aligned assessment** connected to challenging instructional K12 and higher educational goals and outcomes
- + **Robust academic and instructional support** through expanded partnerships and programs with national partners such as Khan Academy and Boys and Girls Club
- + **Increased access** to college scholarships and college readiness planning tools such as major and career inventories and college search
- + **Connections to college and career readiness** opportunities such as Advanced Placement, AP Capstone, Code.org, and Project Lead The Way



Educator Reports – Instructional Planning

View score performance for:

- State, District or School
- Each assessment administered
- Each administration
- Each grade

CollegeBoard Assessment Reporting

Reports Center

Reports | Napa High School |

SELECT: Summary PSAT 8/9 PSAT 10 **PSAT/NMSQT** Roster

REPORT TYPE: Instructional Planning

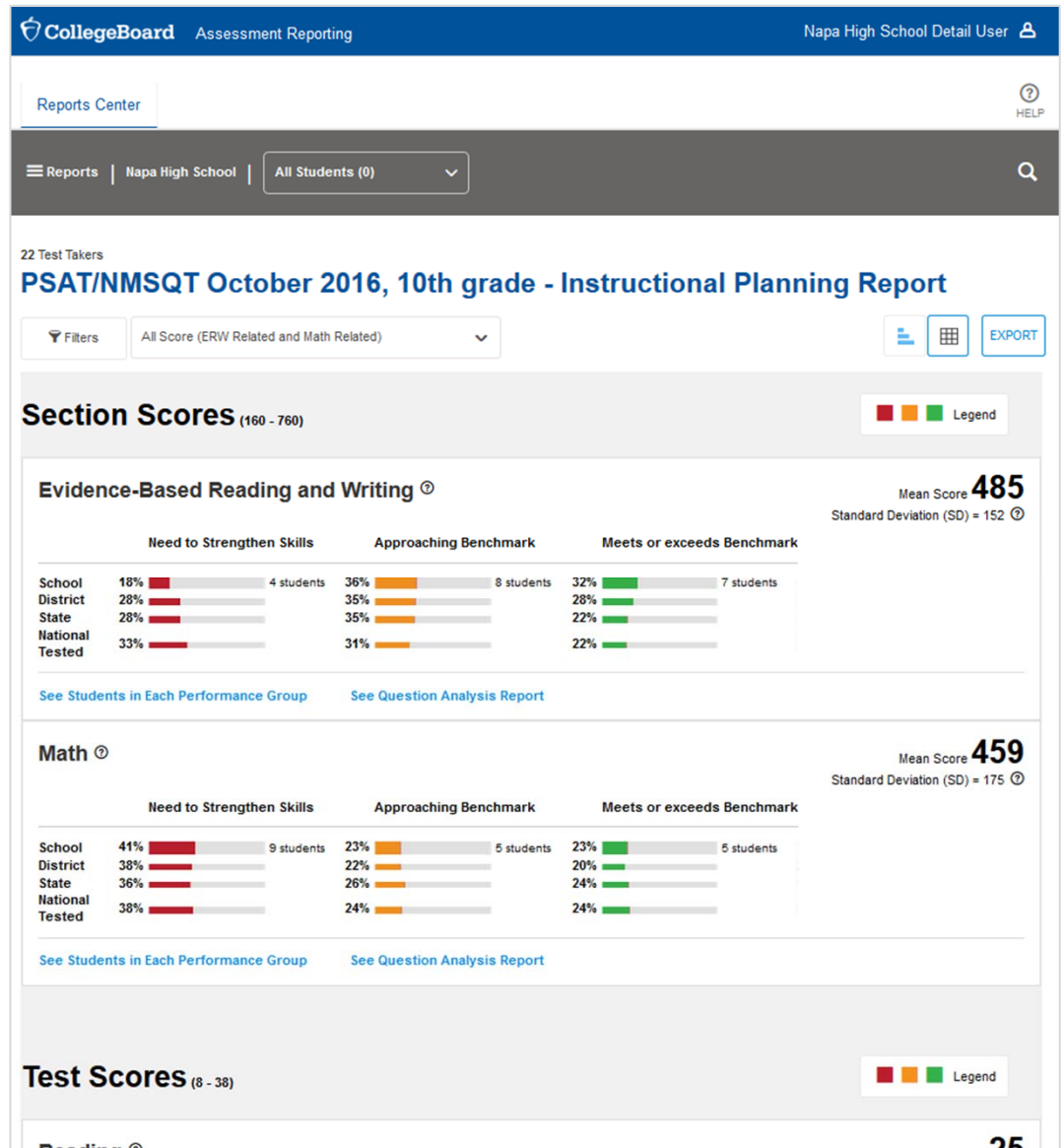
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GRADE LEVEL: 10th grade

Run Cancel

Educator Reports – Instructional Planning

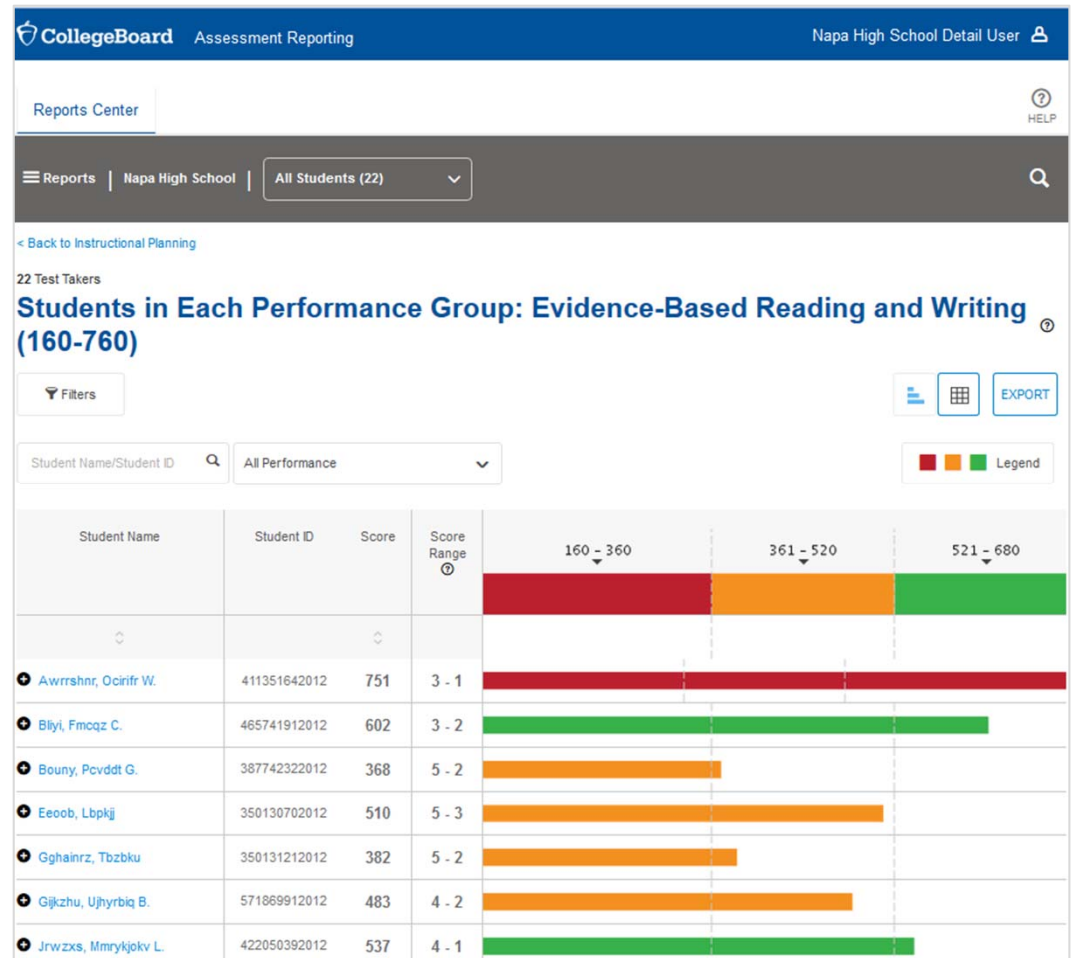
- Provides breakout of student performance, in each Section, Test and Subscores:
 - Need to strengthen skills (red)
 - Approaching benchmark (yellow)
 - Meet or exceed benchmark (green)
- At school-level, ability to see student in each performance group
- See state standards for subscores
- Drill-thru to Question Analysis report



NOTE: All data is fictitious.

Educator Reports – Instructional Planning

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PSAT 8/9 Resources

- [Official Educator Guide to the PSAT/NMSQT and PSAT-Related Assessments](#)
 - Everything counselors and teachers need to prepare students and to get the most from test results. Includes quick facts and handouts.
- [Prepare for the PSAT 8/9](#)
 - A presentation educators can use to explain the PSAT 8/9 to parents and students. Includes information on what skills are tested, how to prepare, and more
- [Using Your PSAT 8/9 Scores to Prepare for College](#)
 - Use this presentation to show students how to access PSAT 8/9 scores online, understand score reports, and more.
- [Lesson Plan: Using Your PSAT 8/9 Scores to Prepare for College](#)
 - Use this lesson plan, along with its accompanying presentation, to walk students through their score reports.
- [Sample PSAT 8/9 Score Report](#)
 - Explains the sections of the paper student score report.
- [Understanding Results from the PSAT 8/9: A Parent Tutorial \(Spanish\)](#)
 - A guide in Spanish to help students and their parents interpret results from the PSAT 8/9.

Questions?

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