

Dear Palmer Students and Parents:

Spring is upon us and that means it is “testing season!” Like last year, our juniors will take both the SAT and the CMAS Science assessment; our sophomores will take the PSAT 10; and our freshmen will take the PSAT 8/9. Each of these tests can be completed in a single morning. See below for more details on the testing schedule.

The PSAT tests will give students and teachers valuable information in the content areas of English Language Arts and Mathematics, as well as ways to ultimately improve their performance on the SAT. Beginning with the graduating class of 2021, in order to graduate, students must earn a minimum score in one of the math and one of the English language arts assessments taken during their high school career. The SAT will be the most common way to meet this requirement. PSAT 8/9 and PSAT 10 results will provide key data to assist our teachers in helping students reach this goal. And, SAT scores are still a key piece of information in the college application process. Finally, the CMAS Science test, given to students every three years, provides our teachers, school and district with invaluable information about how to improve our science education.

We ask that you make attendance on testing days a priority. We are required to test all students, so if they are absent on the days we have set aside for testing, we will have to pull them out of class for make-up testing. Please do your best to avoid this disruption.

If you have any questions, there is more information at [palmer.d11.org](http://palmer.d11.org), or feel free to contact either of our School Assessment Coordinators:

Bryan Adler ([Bryan.Adler@d11.org](mailto:Bryan.Adler@d11.org))

Dan Geiser ([Daniel.Geiser@d11.org](mailto:Daniel.Geiser@d11.org))

Thank you!

### SPRING TESTING OVERVIEW

- Juniors will participate in computer-based CMAS Science Testing on either April 2<sup>nd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup>.
  - These will be normal school days for all students.
  - With the cooperation of science teachers, 11<sup>th</sup> gr. students will complete testing while the rest of the student body goes to class as usual.
  - Half of the junior class will test during periods 1-3 on April 2<sup>nd</sup>, and the other half will test during periods 1-3 on April 4<sup>th</sup>.
  - Students will be notified this week which day they are testing and where to report.

- Juniors will also take the SAT test on April 9<sup>th</sup>.

<b>APRIL 9<sup>TH</sup> - SAT TESTING for 11<sup>th</sup> GRADE</b>	
7:35 – 11:30	SAT TESTING (No School for 9 <sup>th</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> , and 12 <sup>th</sup> grades)
11:30	Juniors Dismissed (No School in the afternoon for all grades) * Students with Accommodations may finish later

- On this day, only Juniors will attend. All other grade levels will not have classes. This allows us to maintain an environment suitable for high stakes testing, as well as reward students for doing their best work by giving them the afternoon off.
- Buses will pick up and drop off at normal times in the morning and will run after testing is finished.
  - Buses will only take home for students who finish with “standard” time.
- Students will be notified of their testing room the week after Spring Break.

- Ninth and tenth graders will take the PSAT 8/9 and PSAT 10 tests on April 10<sup>th</sup>.

<b>APRIL 10<sup>TH</sup> - PSAT TESTING for 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> GRADE</b>	
7:35 – 11:25	PSAT 8/9 and PSAT 10 TESTING (No School for 11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> grades)
11:25	9 <sup>th</sup> and 10 <sup>th</sup> Dismissed (No School in the afternoon for all grades) * Students with Accommodations may finish later

- On this day, only 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders will attend. All other grade levels will not have classes. This allows us to maintain an environment suitable for high stakes testing, as well as reward students for doing their best work by giving them the afternoon off.
- Buses will pick up and drop off at normal times in the morning, and will run after testing is finished.
  - Buses will only take home for students who finish with “standard” time.
- Students will be notified of their testing room the week after Spring Break.