



Smithtown Central School District

26 New York Avenue, Smithtown, New York 11787

*The Guidance Dept.  
Presents:*

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***College Admissions  
Testing Information  
September 25, 2025***

<https://www.smithtown.k12.ny.us/Departments/Guidance>

# AGENDA

- PSAT/SAT
- Advanced Placement Exams
- Melissa Bellantonio, Adelphi University
- Tom Ehlers, Method Learning



# PSAT

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- The PSAT is 2 hours and 14 minutes long. It tests skills in Reading/Writing, and Math. The highest score possible on the PSAT is 1520.
- All 10<sup>th</sup> graders are eligible to sit for the PSAT for practice purposes only.
- The PSAT/NMSQT® (or Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test) is a preliminary version of the SAT. All 11<sup>th</sup> grade students should take the PSAT to qualify for the National Merit Scholarship.

# I registered for the PSAT on 10/18, what should I bring ?

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- Admission Ticket: Your Schoolpay receipt is your admission ticket
- Charged SCSD issued chromebook (review this [Help Document](#) prior to the exam to ensure your Bluebook App is up to date and working)
- Photo ID
- Approved calculator
- 2 sharpened No. 2 pencils



# Digital PSAT and SAT

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- College Board made the transition to the digital SAT at U.S. schools and test centers in spring of 2024
- All students will take the digital PSAT/NMSQT this year
- The digital SAT will still be administered in a school or in a test center with a proctor present—not at home
- The SAT will be scored on the same 1600 scale
- Total allotted time will be 2 hours 14 minutes (64-Verbal & 70 Math) down from 3 hours

# Advanced Placement Exams

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- AP exams are college-level tests administered by the College Board (makers of the SAT). Students may take tests in one or more subjects; a comprehensive list of all available AP courses and tests are available at [collegeboard.org](http://collegeboard.org).
- Final scores are on a five-point scale. The highest score a student can receive is a 5 (extremely well-qualified); the lowest is a 1 (no recommendation).
- The fee for each exam is approximately \$99.00 and is administered in May. Communicate with your child's teacher directly for registration options.



# **AP Capstone Research-(NYS English)**

## **AP Capstone Seminar-(NYS English)**

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**AP Capstone is a diploma program being offered by the College Board designed to equip students with the independent research, collaborative teamwork, and communication skills that are increasingly valued by colleges. According to the College Board website, it “cultivates curious, independent, and collaborative scholars and prepares them to make logical, evidence-based decisions.” The AP Capstone courses consist of AP Capstone Seminar (grade 11) and AP Capstone Research (grade 12) offered through the English department. The cost per exam - \$99.00**

# Why Take Advanced Placement Course?

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- Improve writing skills and problem solving techniques.
- Develop study habits for rigorous coursework at the college level.
- Demonstrate maturity and readiness for college.
- Students can earn college credits or advanced standing at some colleges and universities.
- Students who take an AP course and sit for the exam will receive 1 additional quality point weighting to their GPA in that course



# Students with Disabilities

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- College Board and ACT require a separate process for testing accommodations for students with disabilities.
- Create a College Board/ACT account to review accommodations you may have already been approved for.
- The school can assist with applying for accommodation on behalf of your child for by written request of the parent/guardian. Please complete this form to request the school's assistance:  
<https://forms.gle/oVQpyoUfnK4NGDii6>
- Testing accommodations from College Board and ACT are **not guaranteed**. The testing company determines eligibility.

# **Melissa Bellantonio**

## **Adelphi University**

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- How do colleges use testing scores for admissions purposes? For scholarships?
- What are test optional schools?
- How do colleges use AP Scores?
- Do colleges prefer SAT or ACT scores?



# **Tom Ehlers Method Test Prep Achieving Success on SAT & ACT**

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