

Private Schools and Home-Schooled Students

The Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT)

Helping You Get Ready For The PSAT/NMSQT

Logistics

Test Date: October 14, 2009

Location: Burger Activity Center 3200 Jones Rd.

Arrival Time/Doors open: 8:00 am Test Begins: 8:30

Important Note: **There is no early admission.**

Testing Time: 2 hours and 10 minutes (allow an additional 35 for administrative duties).

AISD Contact: Patsy Brady 512 414-0174

What Student Should Bring

- Photo ID: driver's license or school ID
If no driver's license or school ID then a picture on school letterhead that is notarized. **No one** will be admitted without one of the IDs listed above.
- Two No. 2 pencils
- An approved calculator with backup calculator or batteries
 - o Four-function calculator
 - o Scientific calculator
 - o Graphing calculator
- Social security number (Optional)
- A watch (Optional)
- Email address (Optional) To receive educational and financial aid information.

What Students Should Not Bring

- Watch alarms
- Handheld electronic devices, including cell phones, MP3 players and pagers (power must be turned off pagers, cell phones, and handheld computers)
- Any device that can access the Internet
- Protractors; compasses; rulers
- Dictionaries or other books (there are no exceptions, even if English is not a student's first language)
- Pamphlets or papers of any kind
- Highlighters and colored pens or pencils
- Listening, recording, copying, or photographic devices (including watches and cell phones that contain cameras)
- Food and beverages, including bottled water, unless approved for medical reasons

Suggestions/Approaches/Strategies Before Test Day

- Take the practice test in the [Official Student Guide to the PSAT/NMSQT](#).
- Learn the directions for each type of math and critical reading question.
- Try [sample questions](#) from past tests.
- Earn as many points as you can on easy questions.
- Read all the answer choices before marking your answer sheet.
- Do your scratch work in the test book.
- Don't feel you have to answer every question.
- Work steadily -- don't waste time on hard questions. You can always go back to them later.
- Check your answer sheet regularly to make sure you're in the right place.
- Write your answers to grid-ins in the boxes above the ovals.
- Try educated guessing when you can eliminate at least one answer to a multiple-choice question. Be sure you understand the difference between educated and random guessing.