



August 2023

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Good afternoon! It is wonderful seeing everyone prepare for the first day of school! It is going to be such a great school year. Between August 21st and September 11th all 8-11 students will take the Horizon Platform PSAT tests. Direct communication will arrive from your student's teacher/school concerning the specific date that your student will be assessed. Teachers and students will have access to this data immediately after the student is assessed. This data helps teachers and students understand what students know today. Students cannot pass or fail this test. These results will help us know what your student is ready to learn and will assist in the design of instruction to meet your student's specific needs.

Horizon Platform is set to mimic the College Board SAT Suite of Assessment including the new questions & format. Students will be tested in English and Math including the subsections such as "Heart of Algebra," "Words in Context," etc. Horizon will keep track of your student's progress overtime and outline your student's top strengths and growth opportunities. As these tests mimic the College Board SAT Suite of Assessment, the difficulty of the questions will change throughout the assessment.

We have some tips that parents can share with the students to make for a more successful testing session:

- Please take time to discuss the importance of these tests with your student.
- Students taking a similar test (example: PSAT 8/9) will all start at the same level for section one. The level of difficulty for the second section will be based on the student performance on section one.
- Let your student know that if they come across a hard question, to try their best, but not to give up. There are supposed to be challenging questions.
- We have discovered that some students race through the test just so they can see their score. Careless errors due to racing through the test can deflate their score and give inaccurate information on the student's instructional level.

We encourage all parents to log into their student's account with their student to review their score report. To access the score report, use your student's device. Go to [portal.horizoneducation.com](https://portal.horizoneducation.com). Have your student log in using Clever as they did to take the assessment in class. Access to questions and answers for the assessment will be available Wednesday, September 13, 2023.

For any questions, please contact your building administrator or classroom teacher.

Sincerely,

Aubrey Allen  
Director of Curriculum and Assessment