

BOARD BRIEF

Date: February 26, 2021

BOARD INFORMATION X

MEETING PREPARATION:

FROM: Terri H. Mazingo, Ed. D, Chief of Teaching, Learning, and Leadership
Gerald R. Mann, Jr., Ed.D, Executive Director of Instructional Support
Peter Balas, Principal, T.C. Williams High School

THROUGH: Gregory C. Hutchings, Jr., Ed.D, Superintendent of Schools

TO: The Honorable Meagan Alderton, Chair, and
Members of the Alexandria City School Board

TOPIC: 2021 Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) School Day for T.C. Williams High School

ACPS 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL

Goal 2: Instructional Excellence

SY 2020-2021 FOCUS AREA

Focus Area 3: Strategic Plan Implementation

Focus Area 5: Academic Disparities

FY 2021 BUDGET PRIORITY

MTSS including Restorative Practices and PBIS

Chronic Absenteeism among Hispanic Students

Outreach to Hispanic Families to Improve Attendance and Graduation

BACKGROUND

T.C. Williams High School has suspended all Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) and Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) Exam administrations during the school closure period as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Upon the return to in-person schooling, the high school will administer the SAT Exam on Tuesday, April 27, 2021. During this SAT School Day, the exam will be administered to students in grades 11, as well as students in grade 12 who still feel they need an additional opportunity. Similar to a regular school year not impacted by a pandemic, SAT testing requires alternate schedules for any non-testers.

- The SAT Exam for grade 11 will be administered on Tuesday, April 27, 2021, which will allow students to have a reportable SAT score early in the college application process.

- Any 11th grade student who wishes to use this SAT administration for potential National Merit qualification must complete the National Merit Alternate Entry to the 2022 National Merit Scholarship Program form **no later than April 1, 2021**
 - [Alternate Entry to the 2022 National Merit Scholarship Program Form](#)
 - Students must also request that their SAT score from the April test administration be sent to National Merit using **code 0085**
 - Students should contact Stacy.Morris@acps.k12.va.us with any questions.
- The SAT Exam will also be offered to any students in grade 12 who need a reportable score.
- Students will have access to SAT preparation materials through the [College Board](#) and [Khan Academy](#).
- To comply with CDC social distancing guidance, students in grades 11 and 12 will need to opt-in to the SAT Day, through an online form posted on T.C. Williams Student Canvas page to ensure safety protocols are followed. School counselors will reach out to their 11th and 12th grade students, and information will be provided through school and central office communications.
- Based on preliminary data, we can test up to 1200 students using both the King Street and Minnie Howard Campuses.
- The total time for the SAT is 180 minutes, not including breaks, and the SAT Essay is 50 minutes. The SAT start time is 9:00 a.m.
- The College Board will only charge for used tests, resulting in no fees for unused tests.
- Students who are not testing will not report in-person on this day but will be expected to complete asynchronous work.
- All staff who are able will be expected to proctor.

If our community metrics rise and school closure is necessary, there will be no SAT, and there are no additional spring school day testing dates.

RECOMMENDATION

The Superintendent recommends that the School Board review this information and send inquiries to the principal of T.C. Williams High School.

IMPACT

Creation of an optimal testing environment for ACPS students in grades 11-12.

CONTACT

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