**Q1: Who orders the PSAT 8/9 tests – the school or the District?**

**A1:** The PSAT 8/9 will be ordered by the Advanced Studies office based on current student enrollment at the end of August.

**Q2: Will there be a bulk registration so that labels are provided for students to simplify the pre-administration activities?**

**A2:** Yes, the bulk registration file will be submitted to the College Board in mid-September. Students who are assigned to your school on the day the bulk registration is submitted will be included in the file.

**Q3: Why should a middle school student take the PSAT 8/9?**

**A3:** The PSAT 8/9 establishes a baseline measurement of a student’s college and career readiness as he/she enters high school. It also gives students a chance to preview the SAT and PSAT/NMSQT, and connect to AP courses.

**Q4: Why does Pinellas County Schools administer the PSAT 8/9 to all 8th graders and the PSAT/NMSQT to all 9th & 10th graders?**

**A4:** The SAT Suite of Assessments (PSAT 8/9, PSAT/NMSQT & SAT) enhances our ability to measure performance, improve outcomes and build a college-going culture in our schools. The reporting portal will allow us to analyze data and visualize results across the span of assessments to prescribe interventions when students are ahead or behind on their progress toward being on target for college.

**Q5: How long is the PSAT 8/9?**

**A5:** The assessment comprises three tests and includes 2 hours and 45 minutes of actual testing time, 15 minutes of breaks, and approximately 30 to 35 minutes of administration time. Any of the following sections can contain operational or pretest items:

1. *Preadministration activities: 30 to 35 minutes*
2. Reading Test: 55 minutes
   1. 5-minute break
3. Writing and Language Test: 30 minutes
4. Math Test – No Calculator: 20 minutes
   1. 5-minute break
5. Math Test – Calculator portion: 40 minutes
   1. 5-minute break
6. Variable section with Reading, Writing and Language, or Math questions: 20 minutes
7. *Collecting materials and dismissing students: 5 minutes*

**Q6: Are there any practice materials available for students to prepare for the PSAT 8/9?**

**A6:** No, but the College Board has provided detailed information regarding the test design at <https://collegereadiness.collegeboard.org/psat-8-9/test-design> if you wish to learn more about the material and standards covered on the assessment.

**Q7: May I use a calculator on the math portion of the PSAT 8/9?**

**A7:** There are two math sections. One section allows for the use of a calculator and the other does not. All questions can be answered without a calculator, but calculators are recommended for the section that allows it. Allowable calculators include 4 function calculators, scientific calculators and graphing calculators. Calculators that connect to the internet or other devices are not allowed, nor are calculators that make any noise.

**Q8: What should I bring with me on the day of the test?**

**A8:** No. 2 pencils (not mechanical), a calculator and your student ID number.

**Q9: Is there a penalty for wrong answers on the PSAT 8/9?**

**A9:** The redesigned assessments no longer have any penalty for wrong answers.