

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Recommendation to Approve Agreement 59-038N – SAT and PSAT Schools Days with College Board

This request is to approve the agreement between The School Board of Broward County, Florida, and College Entrance Examination Board (College Board), which supports the academic and personal enrichment of students in Broward County Public Schools. PSAT School Day is for select 8th-grade students, PSAT School Day for Freshman, SAT School Day for Juniors and SAT School Day for select Seniors.

Project Description

To provide equal and full access to the college admissions process and to establish a college going-culture and encourage more high school students to take the test and apply to college, Broward County Public Schools proposes to implement a PSAT School Day for 8th and 9th grade students, SAT School Day for Juniors (11th grade) and at-risk Seniors (12th grade). The College Board will assist the District in creating and providing strategic support to high schools to prepare students for the test, applying for potential scholarships and increase access to advanced placement and AP capstone programs.

The SAT School Day program has been reported by high school instructional leadership as successful in terms of providing equity to students in college application and enrollment. This initiative has provided access to college entrance exams for all 11th-grade students in Broward County Public High schools (BCPS). It has virtually eliminated the participation gap between minority and non-minority students, Free and Reduced Priced Lunch and non-Free and Reduced Priced Lunch students, English Language Learners and non-English Language Learners. Overall, participation increased from fifty (50) percent in 2015 (prior to SAT School Day) to eighty-nine (89) percent in 2018. Over 2,800 students who had not previously met graduation requirements for Reading achieved a concordance score on SAT School Day 2018.

In conjunction with the State of Florida's initiative that provides access to the College Board PSAT National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (NMSQT) for all students in grade 10, this BCPS initiative will provide a comprehensive and standardized longitudinal support program for individual student's college readiness, an external set of data points to review the alignment of BCPS curriculum with national expectations, and provide insight on how to support the elimination of achievement gaps among demographic subgroups. Additionally, the PSAT NMSQT and SAT were approved for use as alternatives to the current FSA-ELA and FSA-EOC Algebra for graduation eligibility.

Impact Statement

College Board will work with the District and schools when student scores are released to determine an appropriate plan of action to further increase student college readiness and scholarship opportunities. Broward's Office of Student Assessment & Research, as well as the Office of School Performance & Accountability, will work with the Office of Academics to review and plan around student data results. Additionally, the Office of Student Assessment & Research will produce an annual report of participation and performance for the PSAT and SAT School Day program.

Service Locations

Based on the request of middle and high school principals, the recommendation of the Middle and High School Cadre Directors and the Office of Secondary Learning, all middle school students at grade 8 will be provided the PSAT 8/9 exam during the school day, high school students at grade 9 will be provided the PSAT 8/9 exam during the school day, all students at grade 11 will be provided the SAT, and grade 12 students whom have not yet met the testing graduation requirements will be provided the SAT at each Broward County Public High School.

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Managing Departments

Office of Academics and Department of Student Assessment and Research.

Financial Impact

The spending authority being requested is \$1,739,628 and will be taken from Student Assessment and Research Tests Budget.

The previous agreement started on August 31, 2015 through September 30, 2018.