

College Board Testimony

Senate Education Committee

June 2, 2017

Good afternoon, Chairman Eichelberger, Chairman Dinniman, and members of the Senate Education Committee. We appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony today on College Board's suite of assessments.

The College Board proudly offers the SAT® School Day (SAT SD) assessment and the PSAT 10 for Pennsylvania Department of Education to use as summative high school assessments. The SAT is our flagship college and career readiness assessment. It serves more than 1.6 million students and thousands of high school counselors and postsecondary admission officers around the world each year. As an assessment, it plays a critical role in measuring student achievement and readiness and in helping students make successful transitions into college and workforce training programs after high school graduation. Educators and administrators use SAT SD or PSAT 10 results to obtain the information necessary to deliver interactive and personalized student learning, assess student attainment of achievement levels, and ascertain whether they have successfully prepared students for first year college coursework or workforce training programs.

Currently, seven states administer the SAT SD statewide for state and federal accountability purposes. These states are Maine, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Delaware, Michigan, Colorado and Illinois. Four states – Ohio, Tennessee, Minnesota, and Oklahoma – allow individual districts to use the SAT as part of their high school assessment programs. Additionally, the Idaho State Department of Education administers the SAT as an opportunity assessment in high school. These partnerships have yielded positive results. The College Board partners with Measured Progress in Maine to provide the SAT in 11th grade as part of the Maine Comprehensive Assessment System (MeCAS). Research shows that when Maine replaced its high school statewide assessment with the SAT it increased 4-year college-going rates among Maine public high school graduates by at least 2-3 percentage points overall, and by 10 percentage points among those students who took the SAT only because it was made universal.

Together, the PSAT 10 in the 10th grade and the SAT in 11th grade provide a vertical articulation of college readiness and provides educators student assessment data to inform instruction and educational decisions, such as student placement in courses and intervention groups. Students will be able to use their PSAT/NMSQT assessment results to access free personalized SAT study plans from the **Khan Academy** website. Students will also benefit from the following personalized practice and college and career planning resources:

- **Big Future**, a web-based college- and career-exploratory tool, provides **individualized online college- and career-planning**, including intelligent search-and-match tools, informative videos, as well as resources on college admissions, financial aid, and finding a student's "best fit" college. This free site has more than 35 million unique visits each year.
- Taking the SAT automatically qualifies low-income students for **the Realize Your College Potential program**, a national movement to help every student prepare for and succeed in college and career opportunities. One feature of this program is **four college application fee waivers (CAFW)** given to low-income students who take the SAT. Income-eligible students who take the SAT SD will receive

College Application Fee Waivers, CSS Profile Fee Waivers, and four free Score Sends. These students are also eligible for two SAT Fee Waivers to be used outside of the SAT SD, and two SAT Subject Test Fee Waivers.

- To raise rigor and expand participation in advanced academic courses, the free, research-based **AP Potential™ Online Tool** identifies a student’s likelihood of scoring a 3 or higher on up to 23 Advanced Placement (AP) exams. With the expansion of Pennsylvania’s support of AP exams, more students have been able to use AP Potential to enroll strategically in AP courses that can help prepare them for college courses and career and technical education pathways. Because of the credit policies in many Pennsylvania’s colleges and universities, the **total potential cost savings** for the state’s students and families was more than \$40 million **in 2016**.
- The College Board’s **Access to Opportunity™** works to identify and break down barriers that prevent students – particularly low-income, first-generation, rural, African American, Latino, and Native American students — from taking challenging course work and applying to, enrolling in, and succeeding in colleges that are the best personal fit.
- Through the College Board’s partnership with **Roadtrip Nation**, we built an action-oriented, online personalized career inventory. The **Roadtrip Nation Career Exploration Tool** provides access to career guidance from thousands of experts in their respective fields supporting students as they plan their future paths, including specific high school course recommendations. Available only to students and educators who have completed a SAT Suite assessment, this comprehensive, robust web interface connects with BIG FUTURE and provides an integrated platform for students to learn and to make informed career decisions.
- **Free mobile apps** that help students with test practice and college search. Students can download the **College Board Daily Practice App** for immediate daily test practice, and the **CollegeGo App** to get free college planning advice and guidance on their phones. Both apps are available for free on the Apple and Google Play stores.

Additionally, educators will continue to benefit from our online, interactive reporting portal and actionable reports. The College Board has designed these reports to reflect student performance mapped to standards and tied to instruction. These reports provide:

- **Research-based CCR benchmarks** to help students get and stay on target to be prepared to enter college and career training;
- **Insights into next steps for students** for extra support or possible acceleration that informs instructional improvements;
- **Content subscores** that can be used to develop focused, personalized practice plans. Reports provide scores in Analysis in History/Social Studies and Analysis in Science, as well as scores that reflect performance in Algebra, problem solving, data analysis, advanced math, reading comprehension, words in context, command of evidence, standard English conventions, and expression of ideas;
- **Data that supports adjustments to curricula and instructional learning** through identification of gaps.

We’d like to take this opportunity to do a short demonstration on Khan Academy and Roadtrip Nation. Thank you again for the opportunity to present on College Board’s suite of assessments. We’re happy to answer any questions you may have.