

NEWSLETTER TEMPLATE



High School & Beyond Planning — News & Information

AUGUST

FOR FAMILIES OF 10th GRADE STUDENTS

Earn College Credit While Still In High School

Tenth grade is an important year! Teens might be learning how to drive a car or even getting a first job. It's also an important year for their academic career. Encourage your teens to set themselves up for success by preparing for the [Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test \(PSAT/NMSQT\)](#), taking more challenging classes like dual-credit courses, and pursuing leadership opportunities in school or the community.

Challenging classes like **Advanced Placement (AP)** and **dual-enrollment courses** in high school:

- Give students opportunities for college-level learning.
- Prepare students for college.
- Allows students to earn college credit that could be applied toward a degree.

Plus, **earning college credits in high school can save students time and money** when they get to college. Visit the [AP Test lookup](#) tool to find out how their AP scores count for college credit.

Ask your student's counselor about what dual credit options are available. For example:

- [Advanced Placement \(AP\)](#)
- Career and Technical Education (CTE) Credit
- Dual Enrolled classes with Pima Community College
- Dual Enrolled classes with University of Arizona



Counseling Contact Information:
520-579-4450

Counseling Staff:

Ms. Anderson A-B
Ms. Kati C-Gor
Ms. Wampler Gos-Marq
Ms. Crawford Marr-Rol
Ms. Ruboyianes Rom-Z
Ms. Wray- College & Career
Mr. Hesse- Tier 2 Support

Did You Know?

The PSAT is excellent practice for the SAT! The PSAT stands for the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (aka practice SAT). It is a perfect tool, to see what the SAT is going to be like and sophomores can use their score reports to figure out which academic areas they need to work on. In a student's junior year, this test can qualify them for the [National Merit Scholarship](#). This scholarship comes with a ton of benefits like money and automatic entrance into some honors colleges.

Myth Buster

MYTH: If my student does poorly on an AP, his or her GPA will go down.

REALITY: AP scores are separate from your child's classroom grade.

They do not affect your GPA. There is no risk to taking the exam. If your teen scores low, he or she does not have to share the score with the college.

Preparing for and taking these exams are a good way to get practice taking college exams too.

In addition, participation in dual enrolled and AP classes can help students be successful in higher education by giving them a realistic idea of what college requires and giving them a head start on college-level work.

Upcoming Events & Announcements

- PSAT Sign-Up Begins Wednesday August 22-Sept 12th- \$20 dollars payable in the bookstore
- PSAT Test- Wednesday October 24th

Student Checklist

- Consider taking a practice PSAT ([PSAT/NMSQT](#))
- Sign up for the PSAT- \$20 in MVHS bookstore
- Keep your options open—take the most challenging courses you can. Meet with your school counselor to talk about [AP](#) and dual enrolled college classes for your junior year. Make sure you sign up for the classes you need to graduate and to get into college.
- Continue extracurricular activities.

Family Checklist

- Make sure your student(s) meets with the school counselor and/or College and Career Center. Your sophomore should schedule a meeting to talk about college and career options and to make sure he or she is taking the most appropriate classes.
- Encourage your student(s) to set goals for the school year.
- Make a plan to check in regularly about schoolwork. To find out about your student's grades, assignments, and attendance, you can use the school's online system ParentVUE. Check this free, online system at least weekly to keep up with your student's progress.
- Talk about extracurricular activities.
- Help your 10th grader get ready to take preliminary exams. Taking the PSAT/NMSQT this fall can help your child prepare for college admission tests. Sophomores can also use their score reports to figure out which academic areas they need to work on. Learn more about the [PSAT/NMSQT](#).