

## CLASSROOM DIAGNOSTIC TOOLS

Your child may have told you that they have taken a long, computerized test. Here is some information regarding the tests.

CDTs are based on content assessed by the Keystone Exams and the Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA). Although not a predictor for PSSA and Keystone Exam performance, CDTs provide a snapshot on why and how students may still be struggling or exceeding grade and/or course Eligible Content. The CDT data, along with other data, informs instruction in a timely and efficient manner.

The CDTs:

- are available for use in the classroom throughout the school year on a voluntary basis.
- provide real-time results, ensuring valid and reliable measures, of students' skills with links to Materials and Resources in SAS.
- highlight student strengths and areas of need thus becoming part of the discussions between teachers, parents/guardians, and students to set individual learning goals.

Reports are now available. Please contact the main office if you would like a copy of your child's report in tested areas.

# PSAT

## What is on the PSAT?

The PSAT covers three sections: Critical Reading, Math, and Writing.

- **Critical Reading:** Two 25-minute sections that test the ability to draw inferences and synthesize information.
- **Math:** Two 25-minute sections that test the understanding of numbers and number operations, algebra, functions, geometry, coordinate geometry, measurement, data analysis, statistics, and probability.
- **Writing:** One 30-minute section (no essay) that tests the ability to express ideas effectively, to recognize faults in grammar and usage, and to use language to express meaning.

## How is the PSAT scored?

Each of the three PSAT test sections are scored on a range of 20–80, so the highest combined PSAT score is 240. A score of 50 for each section is considered average. Each question is worth the same number of points, with a small penalty ( $\frac{1}{4}$  point) for each wrong answer.

## Does my PSAT score predict my SAT score?

Kind of. The PSAT is great practice for the SAT because both have the same types of questions and test similar abilities. You can approximate your SAT score by multiplying your PSAT score by 10, but understand that this is only an estimate and doesn't guarantee that you will get that score on your SAT. If you learn some SAT strategies and study, you can raise your score before the SAT.

## How long is the PSAT?

The PSAT is 2 hours and 10 minutes. Even though it measures the same skills as the SAT, the PSAT is shorter and doesn't include a writing sample.

## Should I take the PSAT?

In short, yes, it's a good idea to take the PSAT. The PSAT tests the same skills and has the same types of questions as the SAT, and it serves as the qualifying test for the National Merit Scholarship.

# RVHS

OCTOBER  
NEWSLETTER  
10/5/15



Principal—Amy Rupp

814-275-2424

REDBANK VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL  
920 BROAD STREET  
NEW BETHLEHEM, PA 16242

## FALL IS UPON US

The air is colder, the wind is blowing, and the leaves are changing colors. It must be fall! As we wrap up the fall sports season, I continue to be amazed by the talented students here at Redbank.

Students are working hard on and off the field, setting goals, and doing great things. As I attend games, I am seeing great sportsmanship and much parent support. You may notice that I am trying very hard to promote pride and increase positive school culture. Please continue to show your support for the students off the field. My door is always open, and I welcome your feedback.

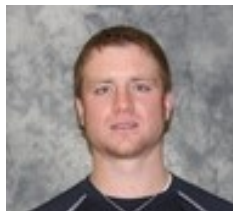
Activity period and clubs are in full force. This month I will be conducting an anti-bullying assembly. It will focus on the issues at hand as well as how bystanders may be a contributing factor to this epidemic in our nation's schools. We will come up with a plan to ensure that any sighting of bullying is addressed. There is no room for this in our schools. I have and will continue to address each situation swiftly and consistently. I appreciate your support as well in this initiative.

I have enjoyed meeting with parents to discuss the school climate as well as any concerns that you may have. Please reach out to me anytime, and we can strengthen our partnership.

*Amy Rupp*



Welcome Mr. Kody Wolff!



*Mr. Wolff is our new Physics and Physical Science teacher. He comes to us from Oil City with over 5 years of teaching experience.*

*Thank you to Mr. Gourley for being an asset to our faculty during our search for the new Physics teacher.*

## Upcoming Events

### October 5th

CDT results available

### October 14th

PSAT administration (grades 10-11)

See info in this newsletter

### October 29th

End of First 9 weeks

## BULLYING ! PREVENTION

### Tips for Parents

1. Encourage your child to report bullying incidents to you and the main office.
2. Ask your child how s/he has tried to stop the bully.
3. Coach your child in possible alternatives.
  - Avoidance is often the best strategy.
  - Look for ways to find new friends.
4. Treat the school as your ally.
  - Share your child's concerns and specific information about bullying incidents with appropriate school personnel.
  - Work with school staff to protect your child from possible retaliation.
  - Establish a plan with the school and your child for dealing with future bullying incidents.
5. Encourage your child to seek help and to report bullying incidents to someone s/he feels safe with at the school:
  - Teacher
  - Counselor
  - Principal
6. Use school personnel and other parents as resources in finding positive ways to encourage respectful behaviors at school.
7. Encourage your child to continue to talk with you about all bullying incidents.
  - Do not ignore your child's report.
  - Do not advise your child to physically fight back. (Bullying lasts longer and becomes more severe when children fight back. Physical injuries often result.)
  - Do not confront the child who bullies.
  - Do not confront the family of the child who bullies.

From: *What to Do About Bullying: Tips for Parents*  
[www.education.com](http://www.education.com)