



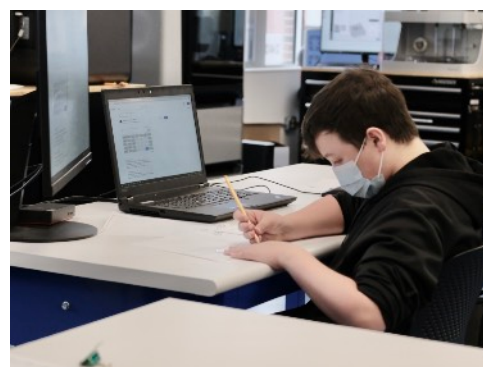
DEAR FAMILIES & FRIENDS OF SPARK...

As I mentioned in our last newsletter, our students will be taking their standardized tests on Wednesday, October 13th. Spark uses annual testing as a means to provide:

- ✓ information to the school regarding overall program effectiveness,
- ✓ students with feedback as to their strengths and weaknesses as measured by the test,
- ✓ Spark with information to report to the NH Dept. of Ed. as to program effectiveness and student growth,
- ✓ opportunities to our students for scholarships,
- ✓ and practice for the state required assessment for grade 11 SAT's to be take in the spring.

In order to include all the necessary details, I thought it best simply to list information items in bullet format.

- ✓ Teachers are providing **practice tests** for the students to take and review in classes so that they are familiar with the testing process and format.
- ✓ Teachers will have the students complete the **identification** portion of the testing answer sheet before the testing date to get that portion of the testing process out of the way.



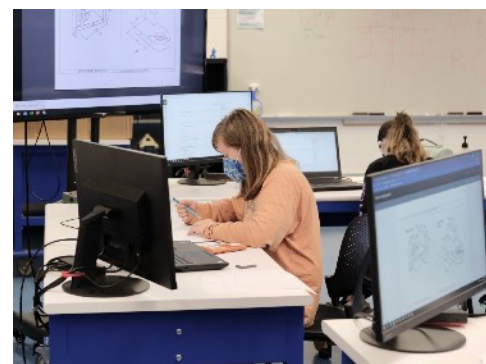
- ✓ The testing date is **Wednesday, October 13th.**
- ✓ The only preparation needed for these tests is a good night's sleep and breakfast.
- ✓ Students arrival time is **7:30 to 7:45 am.**
- ✓ Students must be in their testing rooms by **7:50.**
- ✓ Each student is asked to bring two **No.2 pencils.** We will also have extra pencils for the students.

- ☑ Testing will begin after **8:00 am** once the students are all seated.
- ☑ The procedure for all aspects of testing are strictly regulated by the College Board and must be followed completely.
- ☑ Students will be seated by the teacher proctoring their test.
- ☑ Students may not choose their seats.
- ☑ As part of the security associated with College Board testing, materials must be distributed and collected as required by the College Board.
- ☑ Teachers must map each testing room according to students, test booklets, and answer sheets.
- ☑ Timing and procedures for breaks, restrooms, etc., are all to be conducted in a strictly prescribed manner.



- ☑ Phones, smartwatches, or any similar devices must be collected from the students at the start of the test. They will, of course, be returned after.
- ☑ Students take one of the math tests with the use of calculators, and one without them. Students will learn from their math teachers which types of calculators are allowed.
- ☑ We will have spare calculators for students to use should they not have one or a problem with the calculator develops during the test.

- ☑ Students may bring snacks. Snack time is regulated by the College Board during specific times.



APPROXIMATE DISMISSAL TIMES...

Each testing room will begin at a slightly different time from the rest. Therefore, dismissal times can only be approximate. We will not be conducting afternoon classes.

Students in their **first year** will be taking the PSAT 8/9 which lasts approximately 2 hours, 35 minutes. Their dismissal time will be approximately at **10:45**.

Students in their **second and third years** will be taking the PSAT/NMSQT which lasts approximately 2 hours, 55 minutes. Their dismissal time will be approximately **11:00**.

The tests provide Spark with helpful information and may open scholarship opportunities for our students. However, there is nothing for students to be anxious about. They should do their best so as to give the school sound feedback and help us continue to improve our program.



That's a great deal to remember. I hope our bullet list helps. Please direct any questions to our guidance counselor, Ms. Minery, at melissa.minery@sparkacademyinh.org.

Our photos this week are from one of our 1st year cohort's CAD class. We hope you all have a good weekend! Please remember to check our calendar on the Spark Website (<https://www.sparkacademyinh.org>) for upcoming important dates.

Sincerely,



Denis Mailloux

Director