



# Poudre High School

*"Proud Partnership In The Pursuit Of Excellence"*

September 2009

Dear PHS parents/guardians:

If your student has either a current 504 Plan or a current IEP (Individualized Education Plan) they are eligible to apply for special testing accommodations on the AP, PSAT, and SAT, and ACT tests. All AP exams are administered at the completion of any AP course at our school, and are voluntary. The PSAT is both the pre-SAT and the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test, it is also voluntary, and it is administered every October with preference given to 11<sup>th</sup> graders. The SAT is the regular college admission exam offered by College Board. The ACT is yet another regular college admission exam. Both the ACT and SAT are offered on numerous dates each school year. If your student is college bound, they must take the ACT or the SAT, preferably in the spring of their 11<sup>th</sup> grade year and once again in the fall of their 12<sup>th</sup> grade year. **Please note that the ACT is required by the state of Colorado for all 11<sup>th</sup> graders, and it will be administered at no charge each spring to every 11<sup>th</sup> grader in our school.** To learn more about these tests, and the test dates, you can visit the websites listed below. Once at these websites: *To learn more about special testing accommodations for AP, PSAT, and SAT tests, click on SSD; to learn more about special testing accommodations for the ACT, click on students with disabilities.*

**AP:** <http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/ap/about.html>

**PSAT:** <http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/psat/about.html>

**SAT:** <http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/sat/about.html>

**ACT:** <http://www.actstudent.org/index.html>

Please note that **applying for special testing accommodations does not guarantee that you will receive accommodations.** To actually receive special testing accommodations for any or all of these exams, parents and students must complete a lengthy and rigorous application process and then be approved for the accommodations by the testing organization(s). This process must be completed once for any or all of the AP, PSAT and SAT tests, as well as once for the ACT. For our school to give any student special testing accommodations for the PSAT and the Colorado mandated 11<sup>th</sup> grade ACT, which are both administered at our site, we must have verification that they have received these accommodations from the testing organization well in advance of the actual testing. This condition applies if these same tests are taken elsewhere. Also, depending upon how recently your student received their diagnosis for their learning challenge, you may need to have them reevaluated to even apply for special testing accommodations, and this may mean starting this process even earlier.

If you intend to apply for special testing accommodations we urge you to begin early, starting as early as the beginning of the 9<sup>th</sup> grade year. Details of the application process can be discussed with your student's Guidance Counselor or their Special Education Caseworker. If you intend to pursue special testing accommodations you can also get started on your own by accessing some of the necessary forms and information online (see above).

Although we can provide guidance, we cannot ensure that you will get special testing accommodations, or that you will initiate this process in a timely manner. **We must depend on you and your student to initiate this process** well in advance of any deadlines.

We look forward to working with you!

Poudre High School Administrators and Counselors