

Date _____

Dear Parent/Guardian of _____,

I am pleased to inform you that your child has been identified as eligible to participate in Northwestern University's Midwest Academic Talent Search (NUMATS) sponsored by Center for Talent Development at Northwestern University. The program is in its 37th year of identifying, rewarding, and meeting the needs of gifted children throughout the Midwest.

Your child is eligible based on one or more of the following criteria:

- Qualification for a school gifted program
- Achievement test scores
- Nomination by a teacher or parent

NUMATS is a research-validated, above-grade-level assessment program that offers the PSAT™8/9, SAT®, and ACT® to eligible students in grades 3-9. These tests are internationally recognized measures of academic ability designed for older students. Studies show that there are definite and large ability differences among students who score in the top 10 percent on grade-level tests. When these students take tests meant for older students, the differences are more apparent, instruction can be better adapted to meet their individual needs,

and academic growth can be measured with greater accuracy. Although participation in NUMATS is voluntary, students like your child can benefit from:

- Information about their academic ability that grade-level tests do not provide
- Academic planning and resource options based on above-grade-level test scores
- Information about educational programs for gifted students
- Opportunities to participate in online discussion groups with other gifted students throughout the Midwest and beyond
- Early practice on these high-stakes tests, which are used later for high school placement, scholarships, and college admissions

The *NUMATS Family Guide 2018* I sent home with this letter provides detailed information about the program, test dates and fees, registration guidelines, and student identification requirements. Additional specifics are available at www.ctd.northwestern.edu/numats, and you may complete an online registration at <https://my.ctd.northwestern.edu>. Do pay close attention to registration deadlines and note that refunds are not provided.

Recommended Assessment(s) PSAT 8/9 (grades 3-6) SAT (grades 6-9) and/or ACT (grades 6-9)

NUMATS ID Number 8 _____

Recommended Test Date ____ / ____ / ____

Regular Registration Deadline ____ / ____ / ____

Test Center Code(s) _____

Location(s) _____

I encourage you to consider this opportunity carefully and discuss the benefits of NUMATS assessment with your child. If you have any questions concerning the testing process or the value of participating, please contact me at _____.

Sincerely,

NUMATS Coordinator