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## College Board Changes to SAT

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I hope the start of the school year has been as smooth in your house as it has been at Prince. I can attribute the smooth start of the school year to a great group of high school students, as well as a very talented and experienced high school faculty. This combination is what can create a smooth start to any school year.

I want to share with you some slight changes that have come out of College Board when it comes to the SAT testing. These are not major changes that your high school student will likely notice, but if you are a parent who is in the midst of helping your child apply for college or a parent who is right on the verge of having a child entering the college application season, these are changes in which you might want to know about.

For a number of years now the College Board has been using a metric called Environmental Context Dashboard. The ECD took into account fifteen dimensions of a student's social and economic background and from that information assigned a score between 1-100. The score was referred to as the Adversity Score and while families and students could not see the Adversity Score, college admission counselors could. A student who received a score above 50 was classified as having a disadvantaged background while a student with a score below 50 was classified with a privileged background. Starting this school year, College Board is rebranding the ECD and is now calling it Landscape. Families and students will

now be able to see their Landscape information in College Board's attempt to be more transparent. Information a family can find in Landscape about their child includes: how rural or urban the school is, the size of the senior class, the number of free or reduced lunch students, information about AP classes offered by the school, and how a student's SAT scores compare to other students in the school.

While there is no longer an Adversity Score (the aforementioned "privileged indicator"), there will be a high school and neighborhood average indicator that will take into account six factors: college attendance, household structure, median family income, household stability, education level, and crime. From those factors, a value will be assigned between 1-100. A higher value on the scale will indicate a higher level of environmental challenges in a student's education. College Board states this value will not be a determining factor when it comes to admissions decisions.

If you would like to read more about this change from College Board you can read more [HERE](#) or [HERE](#).

I am looking forward to a great school year working with you and your children.

