Three Issaquah Middle Schools Place at MathCounts Regionals Competition; All to Compete at State

Friday, March 7, 2014 (from ISD Points of Pride)

After three hours of extensive mathematics at the Math Counts regional competition, Pine Lake, Beaver Lake, and Issaquah Middle Schools took home sixth, fifth, and fourth respectively, with all three teams moving on to various state competitions in March.

Mari O’Neil PLMS math team coach stated, “We are very happy to see how many students are choosing to participate in the competitions. We have students at all levels and many of them are focusing on improving their skills while enjoying the activities.”

Traci Brewster, IMS math club head coach, explained, “Our math club meets once a week to prepare and practice. Student practice problem rounds that are similar to the actual competition.”

Problem rounds include: Sprint, Target, Team and Countdown rounds. The Sprint round, requires competitors to complete 30 questions in 40 minutes. The Target round consists of eight questions which are distributed to students two at a time. During this round, each student has six minutes to finish the pair of Target round questions. The Team round allows groups to work together for 20 minutes on 10 problems. Once these three rounds are completed, the top 25% (up to 10 students), proceed to the Countdown round, which is an oral round where students compete head-to-head.

Brewster stated, “The Countdown round is FAST and can be very stressful! This year one of our students, Henry Dai, earned the number six spot in the Countdown round competition.”
Students moving onto various state competitions include Karthik Sellakumaran-Latha, Christopher Tang, Manan Gandhi, and Kevin Wang of Pine Lake Middle School; Kevin Kim, Nishu Chakrapani, Aaron Wang, Kyle Reese, Kevin Xu and Saad Rahman, Alice Xie, Sophia Chiang, Susheel Cheeti, Matthew Shang, and Daniel Weng of Beaver Lake Middle School; Grant Williams, Isaiah Kim, Henry Dai, and Jake Jung of Issaquah Middle School.


Middle right: Beaver Lake Middle School Math Team: Back row: Kevin Kim, Nishu Chakrapani, Aaron Wang, Kyle Reese, Kevin Xu and Saad Rahman. Front row: Alice Xie, Sophia Chiang, Susheel Cheeti, Matthew Shang and Daniel Weng

Bottom right: Issaquah Middle School Math Team: Back row: Ms. Brewster, David Brunner, Grant Williams, Isaiah Kim, Henry Dai, Jake Jung. Front row: Shiven Raina, Andrew Chin, Nalu Zou, Emily Han, Sanjana Chintalapati