

MATHCOUNTS

MATHCOUNTS® is a national Middle School program that encourages students to increase their math skills through learning and competition. Students meet weekly (Thursday after school) for practice.

We have snacks at every practice!

A practice session includes correcting weekly assignments, a lesson (often things that are not taught in the regular classroom), and a competition to improve the students' speed and accuracy. See <http://MATHCOUNTS.org> for more MATHCOUNTS information.

Top students advance from school competition to regional, state and national competitions. The top 8 students from the school competition go to the Tulsa regional competition. The top teams and an All-Star team from the regional go to an all expense paid trip to state competition. The top four students in the state take an all expense trip to national competition.

Having math as your best subject is not required to join! All you have to have is a desire to learn and be willing to do what it takes to become better! *We have snacks at every practice!*

Sample Contest Problems (Answers are on next page)

16. There are only six red, four blue and eight brown buttons in a jar. A button is randomly selected from the jar. What is the probability that the button selected is *not* blue? Express your answer as a common fraction.
17. An airline reported a total of 2500 flight departures and, of those, 1760 departed on time. What percent of the airline's flight departures were on time? Express your answer to the nearest tenth.
6. Round tables seating 8 people and rectangular tables seating 12 people are being used at a banquet for 8th graders. The ratio of round tables to rectangular tables is 2 to 1. How many tables are used to seat 336 students at the banquet, if no table has an empty seat?
8. The sum of six consecutive positive integers is a perfect cube. What is the least possible sum of the six consecutive integers?



Answers on next page

About MATHCOUNTS at Jenks Middle School

Our first meeting is scheduled for September 21st!

1. What is MATHCOUNTS?

- a. MATHCOUNTS competitions consisting of:
- Sprint Rounds--30 problems in 40 minutes. Calculator NOT permitted
 - Target Round--8 problems: four sets of two problems, six minutes each. Calculator Used
 - Team Round--10 problems in 20 minutes--Team works together. Calculator Used

- iv. Countdown Round--fast paced oral competition for the top scoring individuals
Calculator NOT permitted
- b. Levels of competition
 - i. School, Selects top 8 students--top four for team; 4 individual (late January)
 - ii. Regional—In Tulsa for the winners at the school competition (Usually early February)
 - iii. State--Top teams from Regional competitions--all expenses paid trip (Usually early March)
 - iv. National--Top 4 individuals from the state--all expenses paid trip to National Competition (with the coach from the 1st place team) (May)

2. Expectations of MATHCOUNTS.

- a. Practices every week
- b. Weekly assignments (see web page)
- c. Help each other/teach each other
- d. **Those who want to do well will need to do more than just the minimum assignments--*MATHCOUNTS is not about grades, it's about getting better at Math.***

Students in MATHCOUNTS can expect to do challenging problem solving involving math and logic, some topics are not covered in the regular mathematics curriculum, in a competitive setting. They will also be given some instruction on how to solve these types of problems.

3. What we do in the practices (in Room 2506)

- a. Check/correct assignments (help each other)
- b. Lesson
- c. Snack
- d. Practice Round
- e. Practices last till 4:00
- f. 4:00-4:30 is optional time for those wanting to do Countdown rounds

For more information, see the Jenks MATHCOUNTS web page on the Jenks Middle School section on the school's web page.

PARENTS: You can support our program by Volunteering!

- ✦ Recruit business to sponsor Jenks MATHCOUNTS by:
 - Supplying snacks or parties for our practices
 - Providing sportswear (hats, shirts, lanyards, etc imprinted with MATHCOUNTS and their company logo) for our members—this will help build pride in our program
 - Sponsor local competitions
- ✦ Provide snacks for our practices
- ✦ Persuade local media to cover MATHCOUNTS
- ✦ Give presentations at our practices
- ✦ Help the members learn how to work the problems
- ✦ Help plan local competitions

Answers to sample problems:
 16. $\frac{6}{7}$ 6. 36 tables
 17. 70.4% 8. 27

Jenks MATHCOUNTS has a reputation for being the school to beat in Oklahoma, usually finishing in the top teams in the state (first or second). The Oklahoma national competition team, including members and coach from Jenks Middle School recently placed 6th in the nation. Come join Jenks MATHCOUNTS and help us maintain and improve this record!
Coach Beaty