HOLMDEL TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT



"A COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE"

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EIGHTH GRADER TO REPRESENT NJ IN NATIONAL MATH COMPETITION

HOLMDEL (March 22, 2017) – A recent announcement by the Math Department was greeted with cheers of national importance as students and staff learned that William R. Satz eighth grader Brian Liu took first place in the state MATHCOUNTS competition and will represent Holmdel Schools and the state of New Jersey at the National Competition in Orlando, Florida, this spring. More impressive is that this is the second year in a row that he has earned this distinction as a member of the state team at the national competition.



In addition to Brian's outstanding achievement in the MATHCOUNTS program, he has also excelled in competitions sponsored by the Continental Mathematics League (CML) this year, where like his peers Samuel Hampel and Winston Li, he earned perfect scores in all five of the CML meets this year. Satz MATHCOUNTS and CML organizer and Holmdel Mathematics teacher Marian Amitrani reported that she is "thrilled at the accomplishments of these students!"

According to the organization's website, MATHCOUNTS "provides engaging math programs to U.S. middle school students of all ability levels in order to build confidence and improve attitudes towards math and problem solving." "Middle school students exist at a critical juncture in which their love for

mathematics must be nurtured, or their fear of mathematics overcome," suggests the organization, "MATHCOUNTS provides students with the kinds of experiences that foster growth and transcend fear to lay a foundation for future success."

Citing one of the district's goals for the year, Supervisor of Math and Science Alicia Killean suggested that these types of academic competitions and the success of the district's students in them provide a special kind of "engagement, challenge and excitement for all of our students." "Students throughout the school and community excitedly follow these and all of the school's 'Mathletes' and take great Holmdel pride in their success," she added. Mrs. Killean indicated that student passion for and prowess in mathematics recently led the district to add to its offerings in mathematics, extending the study of it through to Multivariable Calculus.