

What is the Middle School Mathematics League?

We are a competitive league where MCPS middle schools compete against each other by completing competitions consisting of written math problems.

How is it structured?

Each MCPS middle school is eligible to have a math team. The season runs from October to February, during which there are four (4) county meets, one each held in November, December, January and February. Schools will host their own math meets during what is called a Meet Week. The coaches will decide what day of the week they want to have their team meet. This year's meets are scheduled for the weeks of November 10th, December 8th, January 12th, and February 9th.

Each school is competing with other middle schools in the county by region. Each school is placed in a region mainly based on geography.

What are the meets like?

Each competition has three rounds: team, relay and individual. Questions typically involve applying concepts taught from Math 6 to Geometry. Students work together in teams of 6 (except for the individual round). The top performing individuals in the county have a chance to compete in the American Regions Mathematics League (ARML) at the end of our season.

Are there other competitions outside of the county meets?

There are other external national and local competitions, such as MATHCOUNTS and the American Mathematics Competition 8 (AMC 8), in which students may participate. This decision to participate is left to the coach and individual schools are responsible for paying the associated fees.

How many students may participate?

Coaches may determine the number of students invited to attend practice sessions. However, the maximum number of students allowed to compete officially for each school, in the county competitions, is eighteen students. School teams are made up of six students and each school is permitted to have a maximum of three teams whose scores are counted officially. Some teams have expressed interest in having a JV competition this year. If your school has more than 18 students interested in math team, then consider letting the others compete as well as alternates or as a JV team, and enter data on the JV data spreadsheet.

What will meets look like this season?

We are using the same format as the past couple of years where each school hosts their own meet. The meet will be provided in pdf form. Students will complete the individual, relay, and

team portions and submit it to their coach who will then score it and submit the data to the spreadsheets in the shared Google folder.

How are practices organized?

Practices are held once a week. The day and time for practice is determined by each school. Students meet weekly to develop problem-solving skills by working through previous math competitions that are in the Math League Google folder, and discussing and sharing solutions to a wide variety of problems. Here are some resources coaches can use to plan their practices and find suitable problems:

<https://www.wastudentmath.org/content/clubs/plan/StarterPackComprehensive.pdf>

<https://www.mathcounts.org/get-mathcounts-school-handbook>

<https://www.mathcounts.org/resources/video-library/mathcounts-minis>

<https://artofproblemsolving.com/alcumus>

https://artofproblemsolving.com/mathcounts_trainer

For more information about the Math League, coaches can access the Middle School Math League Google Folder.