

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

2011 Orange County Math Field Day

Mission Viejo, CA - May 14, 2011

Westminster, CA - May 21, 2011

The Orange County Math Council will host the **20th Annual Math Field Days** on May 14 (South County @ Capistrano Valley HS, Mission Viejo) and May 21 (North County @ Westminster HS, Westminster). Math Field Day is an all-day math competition for students in grades 4, 5, and 6. Each competition (South and North) hosts approximately 80 teams from 45-50 Orange County elementary and middle schools. Math Field Day is an opportunity for Orange County elementary and middle schools to join together in promoting excellence in mathematics, team work, achieving goals, and school spirit. A school can have only one team (4 team members, and 1 alternate) per grade level participating. Most schools hold try-outs and have practice sessions for their teams. Olympic-style medals are awarded to the top 6 teams for each grade level for each category. All kids get a "goodie bag" from community donations.

There are 5 categories/contest in which each team competes:

Number Sense

Consists of two test scores added together: Estimation (counts for 40% of score) and Mental Math (counts for 60% of score).

Estimation - Team Test — Six stations are located around the perimeter of the room. Problems involve estimating some sort of measurement: length, area, volume, weight, liquid volume, metric or standard measurements.

Mental Math - Individual Test – Students are shown 40 different mental math questions via Power Point. They have five seconds to study the problem, and five seconds to write the answer. No work is allowed; all answers must be done mentally. Individual scores are added together to form one team score.

Algebra and Functions

Team Test – Each team answers 9-10 Algebra and Functions questions; most problems are word problems or logic puzzles.

Measurement and Geometry

Team Test – Each team is asked to build an object using materials provided. Students must sketch their construction prior to building, then test it, with multiple trials. Object is judged using a rubric.

Statistics, Data Analysis and Probability

Team Test — Each team answers about 6 questions relating to statistics and probability, then conducts an experiment, predict results, gather data, and analyze the experiment based on their outcomes.

Mathematical Reasoning

Team Test — 25 word problems

Students must show as much work as possible. Diagrams, charts, etc. help a team's point total.

For the second consecutive year, OCMC has the pleasure of partnering with the "You Can Do The Cube" organization. Each team is given the opportunity to sign up for the Rubik's Cube Challenge. Each school is allowed 8 participants (combined from their 4th, 5th, and/or 6th grade Math Field Day teams) to compete in the Rubik's Cube Challenge. During the challenge, each team of 8 will work together to solve 11 Rubik's Cube. The goal is to finish before the other teams. Awards are given to the top team(s).

Orange County Math Council (www.ocmathcouncil.com) - This organization is established for the purpose of improving the teaching of mathematics in all educational institutions within Orange County. The methods of accomplishing this purpose shall include the study of mathematics for its own sake, the improvement of relations between mathematics teachers, administrators, and the public, and the study of curriculum and methods for teaching mathematics.

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