

# The Math Club

August 2018

Dear Community,

I wanted to contact you directly this year to provide an update on The Math Club program. I will sponsor preparation classes this year for third through eighth grade students. This is a private enrichment program that is separate from the public school math teams and clubs and is especially good for the motivated student.

The Math Club program prepares the student for the Mathematical Olympiad Contest for Elementary and Middle School Students and the Applied Mathematics Challenge Contest. I have sponsored competitive teams in Massachusetts for the last twenty-two years with many outstanding accomplishments by the students. This year we will meet at the Hancock Church in Lexington center. Students can participate on a math team offered by The Math Club for the Elementary division level (3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> grade) and Middle School division level (7<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade) of the Math Olympiad Contest. In addition, all students from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> grades are also registered in the Middle School division to build additional experience, if they would like an extra challenge. For more details, visit The Math Club web site!

The main theme of The Math Club is to have fun, to learn a lot of math and to prepare for the Mathematical Olympiad Contest and the Applied Mathematics Challenge Contest. Students receive weekly instruction and homework on a variety of problem solving strategies. They will obtain a deep understanding of the number system and will solve many challenging problems. Some will develop their presentation skills by offering to discuss and present their solution strategy and results to the other students in the class. Many of the students will benefit by building confidence and mastery that shows in their classroom work and standardized test scores. Many recent Math Club members have also been accepted into the Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth program!

Please see the enclosed materials about the significant achievements made by former students in the Mathematical Olympiad Contest. Our student members have received 325 perfect scores over the years and many finishing in the top of the national and international scores! We are hoping to have another successful year.

The Math Club will hold an Open House on September 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> and the regular classes will begin during the week of September 10<sup>th</sup>. The Math Club is a three-part program involving Term-I and Term-II for the Math Olympiad preparation and a special topic session in the spring. The special topic session is for preparation to participate in the Applied Mathematics Challenge Contest.

Parents are welcome to attend and work with or watch their children for 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> graders. Younger siblings are welcome as guests when they accompany their parents. This is an academic program and requires serious thought. As the Math Club results of the last twenty-two years have shown, the math work is worth it! If you have questions about this program, please feel free to contact me. I hope to see you at The Math Club! It is a lot of fun and it is very satisfying.

Sincerely,  
Joe Quigley

# The Math Club

## Testimonials

***A parent writes...*** “The Math Club has provided a uniquely enriching experience for my son. Classes offer a fun, supportive club environment where students can grow in confidence as their contributions are skillfully reinforced and they are exposed to engaging math and a wide variety of problem solving strategies. They come to relish Olympiad contest nights, enjoying the challenge of testing themselves in an event that is prestigious and yet unpressured. The Math Club has given my son a rare and wonderful opportunity. Thank you.”

- *L., Massachusetts.*

***A parent writes...*** “(my son) has made tremendous progress in math after taking your Math Olympiad classes. He is one of the 9 kids of all Acton 6<sup>th</sup> graders who passed 7<sup>th</sup> grade math test (they need to make 90+% on that test which is harder than the 7<sup>th</sup> grade regular placement test). He will go directly to 8<sup>th</sup> grade honor math class next year in Junior high. We believe that taking your class is one of the most important reasons that he can make such progress in math. Thank you so much for your excellent instruction.

- *H., Acton.*

***A student writes...*** “When I first started Math Club, I was struggling to master the grand concepts of Algebra. The Math Club, with its complementary individual exercise and group discussions, taught me to look at mathematics differently, and in the process help me learn Algebra. However, the Math Club teaches far more than just the basics of Algebra. It teaches you how to understand mathematics and how to use it, i.e. understanding what a problem requires and knowing how to piece together those many different “tricks” and formulas to solve the problem. Though its course was inspired by the Math Olympiads, it is far more.”

- *C., Lexington, Massachusetts.*

References provided upon request.