

August 31, 2009

Dear Parent(s),

Your son/daughter is invited to be a member of SMM's Mathcounts team. As part of the SMM accelerated program, I would expect a student to participate in Mathcounts unless there is a major time commitment in another area. The students will meet after school on Wednesdays from 3:15 - 4:30 from January 20 to May 12. Students will be assigned work from the handbook each week that will be due Wednesday. The answer key for the assignment can be found on the Mathcounts web site and on my web site. Any problems that couldn't be worked out correctly will be gone over on Wednesday. During the rest of the time a specific concept used in Mathcounts will be presented and worked on. Last, there will be team work involving another page from the handbook. Please encourage your child to do his/her best. The team members are excellent mathematicians and this will provide them an opportunity to achieve a level of math they otherwise would not have available to them. Next year as seventh graders the students will attend Mathcounts practice with the eighth graders from September through February. They will have an opportunity to be a member of the chapter team and state team if they score high enough on the in-school competition.

Below is how the chapter team will be determined for next year.

There will be a school competition given at the end of January to help determine the chapter team. Student effort and scores on assignments and work done during Wednesday meetings will also be taken into consideration. The chapter team will be announced in February. The next four students will compete in the individual competition. The students that place ninth and tenth will go as alternates. **These students will continue to meet on Wednesday until the chapter competition in February.** The students who do not make the chapter team will still be recognised as members of the school team and will have the opportunity, based on their effort and achievement in class and practice sessions, to participate in other math competitions during the year. If our chapter team or an individual places high enough, the next step is the state competition in Lincoln, Ne. If a student places in the top 4 at the state level, he/she proceeds to the national competition which is being held at Disney World and is a member of Nebraska's state team. Last year we were first at chapter and second at state. We had one student make the state team and he competed at Nationals in Florida.

Please sign and return the bottom by Tuesday, September 8.

Thank you, Mrs. Coates

MATHCOUNTS PROGRAM I have read the above information and my child will participate.

(Student Name) _____

Parent's Signature: _____

