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STUDENT “MATHLETES” WIN AT LOCAL MATH CONTEST

A team of middle school Mathletes® from Daniel Wright Junior High School in Lincolnshire won the local 2023 MATHCOUNTS Lake County Chapter Competition held on February 18th at the College of Lake County in Grayslake. More than 95 students from across Lake and McHenry counties participated in the Chapter Competition this year.

MATHCOUNTS is a combination math coaching and competition program designed to address the problem of declining math skills among U.S. students. Teachers and students have been preparing for the Chapter Competition since the fall. The 6th, 7th & 8th grade students were tested on such topics as probability, statistics, linear algebra and polynomials.

The winning Mathlete® Teams and Individuals received special awards in recognition of their achievement and will now advance to the State Competition, to be held in Skokie, Illinois on March 4, 2023. The top four Individuals at the State Competition will represent the State of Illinois at the 2023 Raytheon Technologies MATHCOUNTS National Competition to be held May 14-15, 2023 in Orlando, FL.

Members of the winning Daniel Wright Junior High School Team are Eric Zhang, Wenhan Li, Daniel Li, and Claire Wang. Four additional Teams scored enough points to advance to State as “Wildcard” Teams. Members of the second place “Wildcard #1” Team of Amrith Praveen, Chloe Xu, Bowen Li, and Amber Dong are from Aptakistic Junior High School in Buffalo Grove. Members of the third place “Wildcard #2” Team are Debarghya Das, Evans Xu, Mohammad Yusuf, and Anunay Arun from Hawthorn Middle School South in Vernon Hills. Members of the fourth place “Wildcard #3” Team from Barrington Middle School Prairie Campus in Barrington are Rishin Patel, Aarush Joshi, Sidd Mohanty, and Annat Jain. Members of the fourth place “Wildcard #4” Team are Dustin Simon, Nichant Reed, Lawrence Over, and Andrew Calderon from Shepard Middle School in Deerfield.

The top four highest scoring Individuals were Amrith Praveen from Aptakistic Junior High School, Eric Zhang from Daniel Wright Junior High School, Wenhan Li from Daniel Wright, and Debarghya Das from Hawthorn Middle School South, respectively. Each Chapter is allowed to send the top 4 scoring Individuals to State that are not on a Team advancing to State. Amrith, Eric, Wenhan, and Debarghya will advance to State as a member of their school’s team. Ben Fei from Aptakistic Junior High School, Landon Hutchinson from Woodlawn Middle School in Long Grove, Likhith Nimmanapalli from Aptakistic and Kautik Madve from Hawthorn South will advance to State and represent the Lake County Chapter in the Individuals category.

Following the written portion of the competition, the 16 highest scoring competitors participated in a fast-paced, timed verbal Countdown Round. Trophies were awarded to the top 4 finishers. Amrith Praveen from Aptakistic won first place and Wenhan Li from Daniel Wright placed second, Eric Zhang from Daniel Wright placed third and Debarghya Das from Hawthorn South placed fourth.

The local program is sponsored by the College of Lake County and the Lake Michigan Post of the Society of American Military Engineers. Leadership of the local MATHCOUNTS program is provided by members of the Lake County Chapter of the Illinois Society of Professional Engineers.

The National Sponsors of MATHCOUNTS are Raytheon Company, Northrop Grumman Foundation, U.S. Department of Defense, National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE), CNA Foundation, ConocoPhillips, Texas Instruments Incorporated, 3M Foundation, Art of Problem Solving, and NextThought.