

## MATHCOUNTS Club at Cabin John MS: Frequently Asked Questions

August 29, 2022

### 1. What is Mathcounts Competition Series?

Mathcounts Competition Series is the nation's premier middle school math competition consisting of a series of competition. This school year the series has been modified due to the pandemic. See <https://www.mathcounts.org/programs/competition-rules-faq> for more information.

### 2. How do the CJMS Mathcounts Club and Team work?

Several CJMS parents started the Mathcounts Club for the first time at CJMS during the 2018-2019 school year, with substantial support from many parent volunteers, CJMS staff and PTSA board members. For the 2021-2022 school year, six of the twelve team members qualified for the Maryland State Mathcounts competition, an outstanding performance.

What is more important, we have fostered interest in math in CJMS students. Many students have sought out additional math learning and contests beyond Mathcounts. We will have two excellent coaches from the last year continue to coach our students this year.

**This year we will continue our in-person meetings if condition allows. Below is a tentative outline of what to expect. Note that schedules and meetings are subject to change.**

- Tryout. About 24 students with the highest scores will qualify for the Mathcounts Club. Details will be provided in the Google form. The **tentative test date is on 9/16, Friday starting at 3:15 pm. in cafeteria.** Sign up link will be posted later.
- Club training, team formation, and competition. Club members will meet weekly on Sundays 9:30-11am for training and testing. The performance in these tests will form the basis for the coaches to select up to 12 Mathcounts Club members to form the CJMS Mathcounts Team. Competition schedule for the Mathcounts series can be found at <https://www.mathcounts.org/programs/critical-dates>

### 3. How can I prepare for the tryout?

Tryout problems will be similar in difficulty level to past Mathcounts competition problems in the School Competition component. See <https://www.mathcounts.org/sites/default/files/Sample%20School%20Competition%20Sprint%20Round.pdf> for the 2021 Mathcounts School Competition problems.

### 4. CJMS also has a school math team, how does it relate to the Mathcounts club and team?

The Mathcounts club/team is independent of the School Math Team. Some students choose to join both teams. For information on the School Math Team, please refer to the information on the CJMS website.

5. What are some resources and opportunities to advance students' math skills if they do not qualify into the Mathcounts club and team?

There are many free online resources for students to practice and improve their math skills, including some listed on the mathcounts.org website. In addition, there are many math competitions that welcome any student to participate. These competitions often rely on parent and community volunteers. In the last few years, several parents took our students to several different math competitions and took home trophies. We often receive information on such competitions, but don't have the resources to coordinate. If there are parents who are interested in coordinating these competitions, please let us know. Be forewarned that it might require a substantial amount of effort and time.

6. Who can I contact if I have questions?

Hopefully this FAQ is self-explanatory. To ensure equal access to information, we will announce tryout signup through CJMS or PTSA channels. We monitor the email account [cabinjohnmathcounts@gmail.com](mailto:cabinjohnmathcounts@gmail.com) regularly in the beginning of the school year until the team is formed. Once the team is formed, communication would be mainly through team email list and Google classroom. The email account may not be monitored routinely.