



Twin Valley School District
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TWIN VALLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL SHINES IN 2009 MATHCOUNTS REGIONAL COMPETITION
Eighth Grade Student Elizabeth Kurtz Advances on to State Competition

Elverson, PA – Twin Valley School District (TVSD) officials are pleased to announce that the Twin Valley Middle School (TVMS) recently placed 5th out of 17 teams in the annual MATHCOUNTS Regional Competition held at Alvernia University on February 7th.

Elizabeth Kurtz, 8th grade, was the team's top individual scorer, placing fourth, followed by Nick Baylis, 7th grade, who placed in the top ten of elite mathematics competitors. Kurtz will represent TVSD at the state competition in Harrisburg March 20-21st. She was the sole female competitor from Berks County to qualify for state competition. Kurtz has the opportunity to advance to the national competition held later this year at Disney World in Orlando.

Baylis, while not qualifying for state competition, holds the distinction for completing all of his problems without utilizing a scratch pad, an impressive feat for any student.

A total of 103 sixth-, seventh- and eighth-grade students from 17 Berks County schools participated in the competition, which encourages junior high and middle school students to study math. The TVMS team of eight 7th and 8th grade students was coached by Ms. Cindy Magliula and Mrs. Laura Shadow, 7th grade math instructors at TVMS.

Both Magliula and Shadow will continue to prepare Kurtz for the state competition by introducing her to Algebra II and Geometry concepts that she may not be familiar with, as well as conduct some mock meets with her peers as audience members to help her become familiar with the state format.

In addition to Kurtz and Baylis, team members included Karah Horbach, Jeff Matthews, James McGinnis, Lee Thompson, Heather Phillips, and Liza Khachaturova.

The event was sponsored by the Reading Chapter of the Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers.

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Twin Valley School District is an equal opportunity public education institution that is committed to excellence in education. In partnership with parents and the community, the District aspires to prepare students for challenges in an ever-changing world.

PHOTOS: Elizabeth Kurtz and Nick Baylis