



MCA Proves Mathcounts Competition to be Easy as π

Members of MCA's Mathcounts team participated in a regional competition in Winston-Salem, NC. Mathcounts is a national math enrichment, coaching, and competitive program that promotes middle school mathematics achievement in every US state and territory.

The MCA official school team, consisting of **Cameron Shaw** (6th grade), **Ryan Wagoner** (8th grade) **Ben Thomason** (8th grade), **Elijah Surrell** (8th grade), and **Drew Tilley** (7th grade), did remarkably well, scoring 3rd place out of fifteen area schools in the team division. Eighth grader **Ryan Wagoner** came in second place in the individual competition. MCA once again receiving the Mathcounts trophy for the "top small school." **Ryan Wagoner** will advance to the state level competition at the NC School of Science and Math on March 20. Mathcounts is an extremely difficult competition.

The MCA Mathcounts coach is 8th and 9th grade math teacher, Christie Speer.



MCA's Mathcounts members, posing with their trophies, are, left to right: **Cameron Shaw, Ryan Wagoner, Coach Christie Speer, Ben Thomason, Elijah Surrell, and Drew Tilley**



Left to right: **Katie Brintle** (7th grade), **Riley Cullen** (9th grade), and **Calista Tomchick** (8th grade)

Patriot's Pen / Voice of Democracy Awards

Three MCA students recently received certificates of merit from the Veteran's of Foreign Wars. **Katie Brintle** (7th grade) and **Calista Tomchick** (8th grade) received certificates for essays they wrote, and **Riley Cullen** (9th grade) received a certificate for an audio recording she made for the Voice of Democracy contest. Patriot's Pen is an essay contest open to middle school students. The Voice of Democracy is an audio essay contest open to high school students. Both events are sponsored by the Ladies Auxiliary to the VFW, which was established in 1914.



Science Olympiad Team Wins First Place in Region!

MCA's North Carolina Science Olympiad (NCSO) team recently won first place in the region at a tournament held at Atkins High School in Winston-Salem. MCA came in first out of eleven other schools. NCSO is a nonprofit organization with the mission to attract and retain K-12 students entering STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) degrees and careers in North Carolina. NCSO tournaments are rigorous academic competitions that consist of a series of different hands-on, interactive, challenging, and inquiry-based events that are well balanced between the various disciplines of biology, earth science, environmental science, chemistry, physics, engineering, and technology. Out of twenty-three events, MCA students brought home medals in all but two categories, which resulted in the team receiving the highest scored total, and awarding them the 1st place regional trophy. The team will progress to the state competition at NC State University in April.



These are the members of the MCA NC Science Olympiad team: Pictured in front, from left, are **Will Erickson, Zack Wardle, Drew Tilley and Ben Thomason**. In the center row are **Cameron Shaw, Sidney Watson, Laurel Petri, Ryan Wagoner, Oscar Hampton and Jack Campbell**. In back are **Amy Depetris, Kaine Lovill and Sarah Shepherd**. Not pictured is **Jack Bevard**. Photo courtesy of Dave Broyles, The Mt. Airy News.

This story was covered by The Mount Airy News. If you'd like to read that story, just click on this link:
http://www.mtairynews.com/news/home_top-news/152238233/MCA-Olympiad-team-finds-success



NCSO Team Members celebrate with their trophy as they each try to put at least one finger on the trophy.



Here's another shot of the MCA Science Olympiad team, posing in the new upper school building with their big trophy! Left to right are **Cameron Shaw, Ben Thomason, Jack Bevard, Sarah Shepherd, Sydney Watson, Laurel Petri, Zack Wardle, Kaine Lovill, Ryan Wagoner, Amy Depetris, Drew Tilley, Coach Brittany Branch, Oscar Hampton, and Will Erickson**. Not pictured is **Jack Campbell**.

Presidential Leadership Gives Donation to Brody Read Foundation

The MCA PLC recently raised \$196.50 for the Brody Read Foundation, an organization to help families with sick children at Brenner Children's Hospital. PLC would like to thank all that gave, and they would like to especially thank the anonymous donor who placed a special paper marked "don't open until next PLC meeting" in the donation jar. When the paper was opened, PLC members found \$100 dollars inside! Thank you, anonymous donor!

