

**EPHRATA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
803 OAK BOULEVARD
EPHRATA, PA 17522**



For Immediate Release
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Ephrata Intermediate School Students Compete in National Math Challenge

December 9, 2009 – Ephrata Intermediate School 5th and 6th Grade students in the gifted program recently competed in the American Math Challenge, an on-line math competition. The program is sponsored by MATHCOUNTS and is for students ages 9-14 throughout the United States.

“The students were really excited,” said Heather Mohr, the Grade 5-8 Gifted Facilitator. “At one point during the competition, one of our students was in the top 50 in the United States.”

Students earned points by competing against the computer or against students from other schools. “I played against students from Florida, Texas, New Hampshire, and Michigan,” said Nate Fassnacht, a 6th Grade student. “I liked seeing how quickly I could answer the question off the top of my head.”

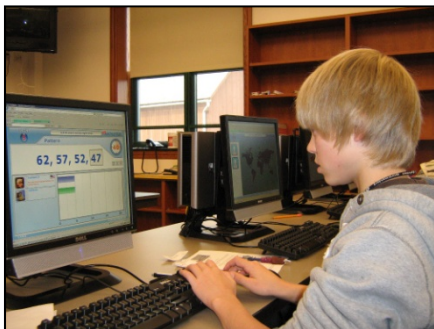
Prizes were awarded to students, classes, and schools that finished in the top three nationally. “This was the first year Ephrata Intermediate School students participated. It was a great experience, and I think the students enjoyed the fast-paced competition,” said Ms. Mohr.

“It was hard having to come up with an answer quickly, but I did pretty well. The competition made it fun and made us want to do math,” said Daisy Good, a 6th Grade student.

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Ephrata Intermediate School 6th Grade student, Nate Fassnacht, competes online in the American Math Challenge.