



# OMPH School Scene

## OMPH MATHCOUNTS

The OMPH MATHCOUNTS team is starting up this year with a new coach. After many seasons our veteran volunteer coaches Judy and Scott Giacobbe retired after the 2016-2017 season. Mrs. Emily Good stepped up as interim coach so the OMPH student team could compete in the competition last winter. This year we are blessed to have an experienced MATHCOUNTS coach take over: our principal, Mrs. Patricia Foltz. She coached her son's MATHCOUNTS team when he was in middle school, so she is familiar with the program, and as a former math teacher she is also familiar with the content.



MATHCOUNTS is a national competition for middle school students. Started in 1983, the MATHCOUNTS Foundation was established by the National Society of Professional Engineers, the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, and CNA Insurance in order to foster mathematical problem solving abilities and to encourage middle school students to develop positive attitudes about math. Each year the foundation sponsors local, regional and national contests where students can compete in person against their peers as part of a team event.

The MATHCOUNTS Foundation, on their website notes that there are four events in a MATHCOUNTS competition. In the Sprint Round, students must answer questions without a calculator, focusing on speed and accuracy. The Target Round involves problem solving and mathematical reasoning. Students may use a calculator to complete these problems. The Team Round encourages collaboration in problem solving. Four students must work together to solve ten math problems in twenty minutes. Finally the Countdown Round focuses on speed and accuracy as students have a maximum of 45 seconds to answer each question without a calculator.

OMPH has been involved with MATHCOUNTS for nearly twenty years, since Mr. George Rudy began coaching when his sons were students at OMPH. Our seventh and eighth graders are fortunate to be the beneficiaries of this tradition. We are grateful to Mrs. Foltz for taking on this additional job as she encourages our students to make the most of their abilities.

Mrs. DiNovis, Middle School Math/Science Teacher

## OMPH School Students Hold Food Drive During November

Throughout the month of November, the OMPH School students conducted a food drive to support the OMPH Parish Food Bank. The entire school community gathered items such as soup, pasta, pasta sauce, tuna, canned vegetables, cereal, and more to be given to those who need it most. Coordinated by the 6th grade class, the items were brought to the altar during the students' Thanksgiving Mass on November 20th. After being blessed by Father John, the food was sorted for delivery to the Food Bank. Thank you to all our school families for your generosity!



For more information on OMPH School, contact us at 330 Church Ave., Ephrata

717-738-2414 • [office@omph.org](mailto:office@omph.org) • [www.omph.org](http://www.omph.org) • Find us on Facebook: OMPH-Ephrata