



PRESS RELEASE

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Fort Settlement Mathletes® Match Skills at State Competition; Victory sends Coach to National Competition in May for the Fifth Year in a Row

AUSTIN— Exercising their brainpower to solve math and logic problems, 286 sixth, seventh and eighth grade students from around Texas participated in the 27th Annual Texas State MATHCOUNTS Competition today. Four of these Mathletes and a teacher-coach, earned the chance to advance to 2010 Raytheon National MATHCOUNTS in Orlando, FL in May where Texas will try to win for the fourth year in a row.

A team of four students from Fort Settlement Middle School in Sugar Land compiled the best score of 56 teams in the event held at the Hilton Austin Airport Hotel.

The Fort Settlement students competing on Saturday were: Zachary Tu who placed 5th; Angie Rao who placed 10th, Aditya Jain placed 11th and Raymond Chee placed 23rd out of 286 competitors to take the slot as the #1 team in Texas. Their coach was teacher Jeff Boyd. Coach Boyd will have the honor of coaching the Texas Team to compete at the National Competition in May. Boyd has been the Texas Coach for the past five years and won four national competitions.

For over twenty-five years, Texas has supported MATHCOUNTS—a national math coaching and competition program designed to increase enthusiasm and enhance achievement in middle school mathematics—because it fosters the highly advanced problem-solving and critical thinking skills that today’s students will need to become tomorrow’s leaders and innovators and help keep Texas competitive in an increasingly technology-driven economy.

The program—which is organized in Texas by TSPE and staffed by member volunteers—also demonstrates the power of cooperation between private practice and industry. Raytheon, Shell, 3M, The Sid Richardson Foundation, The Texas Education Agency, Texas Instruments and the Cockrell School of Engineering support the program financially, and speakers from Raytheon and Shell shared what they do now and how their math and science skills help them innovate and succeed in their careers.

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