



**WAKE COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM**

August 15, 2019

Dear Salem Families,

Salem Middle School will participate in the American Math Competition Level 8 (AMC8) on November 12, 2019. The AMC 8 is a well-known mathematics contest for middle school students. All students in grades 6, 7, and 8 may participate as long as they are under 14.5 years on the day of competition.

By the time students reach high school, many have formed a perception of mathematics without fully exploring their own potential as analytical thinkers and problem solvers. The AMC 8 helps middle school students discover their love of problem solving and develop their potential. The AMC 8 is 25 questions in length and is multiple choice with no penalty for guessing. The contest is 40 minutes in length and will be administered by school staff. No calculator or electronic devices of any kind are allowed. A student's score is the number of problems correctly answered. Students should set appropriate goals for themselves, so that the competition is a positive experience for every student. For some students, getting even a few questions is an accomplishment.

The Salem Middle School student with the highest score will be our school winner and recognized on the AMC 8 plaque on display in our trophy case. The top three students in each grade level will receive a certificate for outstanding achievement. AMC 8 Honor Roll certificates will be given to all students who score in the top 1% and 5% nationally. Student scores will not be placed in the cumulative folder or counted for a math grade.

Competition will begin promptly on November 12 at 8:20 for 8th grade, 11:35 for 7th grade, and 1:17 for 6th grade. Absent or late students who miss the competition will receive the test booklet and answers when they are returned to all participants. Track 2 students (on trackout) are encouraged to participate and should report to the front office prior to their testing time to receive their testing room location. Parents of track 2 students must provide transportation home after the competition.

If you wish for your child to participate, a payment of \$3.00 is required. Please have your student bring a check (payable to Salem Middle School) or exact cash in a sealed envelope to Mrs. Howland by **September 6 for track 1 and by September 20 for tracks 2, 3 and 4.** Please print your child's name, grade, and track on the bottom of the check and on the envelope. You may also pay online by visiting the Salem Middle homepage, click on parents in the blue bar, and click on online school payments. No late payments will be accepted because exams will be ordered the last week in September.

Additional information about the AMC 8 can be found at <https://www.maa.org/math-competitions>. Please let me know if you have questions or concerns, and thank you for encouraging your student to participate in this problem-solving contest!

Sincerely,

Jennifer Howland, Academically and Intellectually Gifted Teacher
jhowland@wcpss.net