

ecae • fall 2007 • saturday school

edina center for academic excellence

course descriptions

• competitive math training level 1 (6th-8th grade)

class meets 10 Saturdays September 22, 2007 – December 15, 2007

No class October 20, November 10, November 24

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 a.m. Edina High School, Room 322, \$300

The focus of this class is to train students in competitive problem solving using actual Minnesota Junior High Math League and Mathcounts competition problems. Emphasis will be on developing and refining problem solving skills, strategies, speed and accuracy. Students should be advanced in math understanding beyond grade level and have an understanding of basic algebra. Practice is essential, hence 20-30 min. of homework each day and a desire to improve will be the key to success! It is expected that students are participating on their school math teams during the competition season and this training will help prepare them to place among the top scorers of their team. Specific training and tips for the November AMC8 contest will be a special topic of the Fall session.

• competitive math training level 2 (9th-11th grade)

class meets 10 Saturdays September 22, 2007 – December 15, 2007

No class October 20, November 10, November 24

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Edina High School, Room 321, \$300

The focus of this class is to train high school students in competitive problem solving using actual Minnesota Math League, AMC10 and AMC12 competition problems. Emphasis will be on developing and refining problem solving skills, strategies, speed and accuracy. Students should be advanced in math understanding, and have participated previously on their school's math team. Practice is essential, hence 20-30 min. of homework each day and a desire to improve will be the key to success! It is expected that students will be participating on their school math team during the competition season in the fall and this supplemental training will prepare them to place among the top scorers of their team. Specific training and tips for the February AMC10 and AMC 12 contests will be a special topic of the Fall session.

● challenge math for 1st - 3rd graders

class meets for 5 Saturdays starting September 22, 2007 – October 27, 2007

No class October 20

9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Edina Community Center, Room (TBA) \$ 100

Here's a class specifically geared toward the gifted, high math interest, younger student in grades 1-3! Advanced topics will be explored in a fun and motivating small group setting and will include combinatorics, digital sums, fair and unfair games, networks and an emphasis on problem solving. Students should be able to add and subtract 4-digit numbers, multiplication table up to 12x12 (need not be memorized, but child needs to know how to determine 7x12, for example), minimum second to third grade reading and writing level, ability to focus for a 90-minute time period. Our teacher has previously taught and developed gifted mathematics pull out classes. Enrollment is limited so please register early.

● continental math league for 4th – 5th graders

team meets for 5 Saturdays starting November 3, 2007 - March 15, 2008

Meet dates: November 3, December 1, January 5, February 9, March 15 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Edina Community Center, Room (TBA) \$ 75

Gifted, high ability math students who are motivated by competition and want a chance to try out their math skills against other teams in the U.S. are invited to become members of the **ecae** Continental Math Team. We compete in the Pythagorean (advanced) 6th grade Division in 5 separate pencil and paper meets (contests) held on or near these dates: 11/2, 11/30, 1/4, 2/8, 3/15. High scorers receive League recognition and awards along with the other school teams who are competing in the League. Students should have a good command of pre-algebra fundamentals and preferably, be accelerated in their math by one to two grade levels. First ½ hour will cover selected competition topics and second ½ hour is the actual contest itself. This is an excellent introduction to the competitive mathematics format that is later offered in many middle schools and high schools.

● writing tutorial for 7th-9th graders

tutorial director: Betsy Cussler, former Edina High School AP English teacher

Class meets for 5 Saturdays starting September 22, 2007 – November 17, 2007.

Class dates: September 22, October 6, 13, November 3, 17

9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Edina High School Room 322 Fee: \$225

Middle school students do not have to wait until high school to begin the advanced reading and writing process that will result in success at the AP level and beyond. This tutorial guides students on ways to critically analyze, synthesize and evaluate what they read. Major focus is on discussion and written analysis of poetry, fiction and some non-fiction. There will be a writing assignment for each session. Individualized feedback and suggestions for improvement will be a key part of the course. Students registering for this course should be advanced in their writing and reading ability and able to dedicate the time to complete all assignments. Enrollment is limited so please register early.

● **chinese IA: conversational chinese**

Instructor: Grace Bunday, a native speaker

grades 6 - 9, adults welcome Saturdays, Sept. 22, 2007 – December 15, 2007

No class October 20, November 10, November 24

9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Edina High School, Room 321, \$300

More people —885 million — speak Mandarin Chinese as a first language than any other language in the world. Come join them! This class is the first half of a year long course and is for the beginner, or recent on-line learner who wishes to start learning and practicing the Chinese language. Emphasis will be on understanding the spoken word, sentence structure and being able to really converse in Chinese. There will be lots of opportunity to practice listening and speaking. The English Pinyin system and Chinese Zhuyin Fu Hau system of pronunciation and writing will be utilized. Some Chinese written characters may also be introduced. Students are encouraged to enroll as “pairs” or “couples” in order to practice with one another both in and out of class. There may be an additional workbook fee. Free class attendance for parent with a registered student!