

Math Pentathlon needs your help!

We started the Math Pentathlon after school club at Pease two years ago, with a Division I (K/1st) and Division II(2nd/3rd) group. Last year we added Division III(4th/5th). We had 16 spots available in each of the 3 divisions last year, and had wait lists due to the high interest level. **This has been a parent led group and we need your help to continue this program at Pease.**

We have a team of 2 parent coaches who are leading Division III, for 4th and 5th grade (Larissa and Emily). I can lead Division II, for 2nd and 3rd graders, but would like to have another 2nd or 3rd grade parent join me in leading this group. We currently have no one designated to lead Division I for Kinder and 1st grade and would love to have a couple of parents take this on. I would be available to help teach and mentor the volunteer coaches, and the Math Pentathlon Organization offers great training sessions, right here in Austin.

It would be ideal to have a Kinder parent and 1st grade parent lead Div I so that we have an experienced parent to stay in Div I next year and one to move up to Div II. My child is in 2nd grade, so a 3rd grade parent to help out with Div II would also be helpful, so that they could move up to Div III next year.

What is Math Pentathlon?

Mathematics Pentathlon is a program of interactive problem-solving games for students in grades K-7 (only K-5 at Pease so far). This motivational program strengthens basic math concepts and skills, aligns with curricular standards and stimulates creative thinking while developing problem-solving skills. A focus on conceptual understanding and the integration of spatial, computational and logical reasoning are key attributes of Math Pentathlon.

What happens at Pease Math Pentathlon club meetings?

Children play challenging math-based games in pairs and small groups. There are 5 games for each division. In the fall, we focus on learning all the games, and in the spring we work on strategy and getting ready for tournament for those who are interested. The club leaders are parent volunteers who don't "teach" math, but demonstrate the games, then assist and facilitate while the kids play. Children who participate should want to be there and enjoy playing the games. **We also need lots of parents or other adults (grandparents, etc.) to come on a regular basis;** a ratio of at least 4:1, kids to adults, is ideal. Then, for students who want to compete, there will be a national tournament in the spring!

To learn more, you can visit Mathematics Pentathlon website at www.mathpentath.org

Watch videos of games/tournaments at <http://www.mathpentath.org/movies/VideoPage.htm>

Contact me!

If you are interested in helping continue and grow this club at Pease, please contact me with any questions or to express your interest. The clubs can meet weekly or every other week and can be scheduled on a day that works best for parent volunteers as long as there is a space available on that day. If you do not wish to coach or lead, but can be available to help out at the meetings for any division, please let me know that as well.

Thanks!

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