

TAPS

Team Approach to Problem Solving

What is TAPS?

T.A.P.S. (Team Approach to Problem Solving) is patterned after a model developed by the 1989-90 YSU Eisenhower Grant Math Scholars. The contest involves problem-solving as outlined in the NCTM Principles and Standards and addressed in the Ohio Academic Content Standards for Mathematics. These problems do not involve just simple computations, but address the benchmarks for mathematical processes in the content standards. As an added feature this year, all questions will be correlated to one of the five Ohio Content Standards and have been given to us from the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics with their written permission.

Who may participate in TAPS?

This contest is an invitational event for seventh and eighth grade students. A team consists of four students: either four 7th graders, four 8th graders, or a combination of 7th and 8th grade students. A combination team will compete as an 8th grade team. The students involved must be enrolled in your school as 7th or 8th grade students or must be taking a 7th or 8th grade math course. Your building may enter as many 7th grade teams and/or 8th grade teams as you wish.

When is TAPS?

This year, TAPS will be held as an online competition. The sponsoring teacher may administer the contest at any time during the last week of February. Answers must be submitted via the web (site will be sent via email as a link to the site for the responses). Sponsoring teachers from registered schools will receive an email with the questions included as an attachment by February 21st and answers must be submitted by Saturday, February 28th.

Where is the contest held?

The contest will be held at the home school of the sponsoring teacher.

All students receive certificates of participation and members of first or second place teams will receive individual awards. An engraved plaque identifying team members is also awarded to those schools in first or second place.