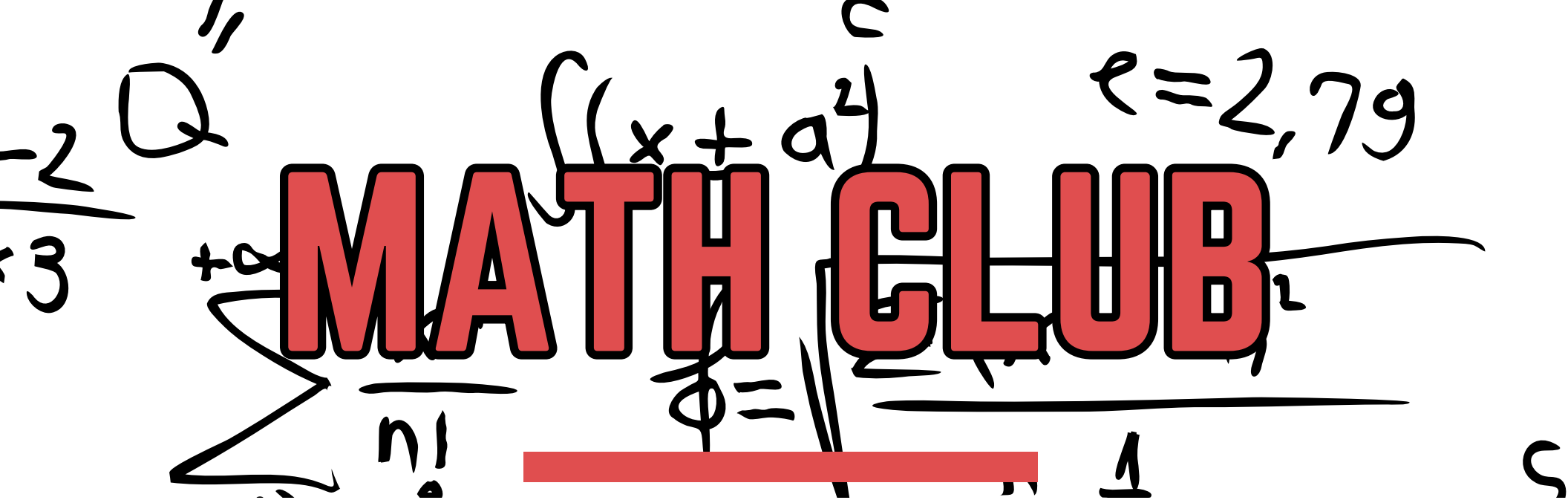




The Blue Mountain Community College campus was no match for a group of middle schoolers with calculators in their brains and fire in their souls.

For the second year in a row, our Math Club competed at BMCC to qualify for regionals, and for the second year in a row, we won first place.

Yes. FIRST. PLACE. Again.

And now they're officially heading to state. Let me remind you: this is an all-middle school team. No high schoolers. Just six (maybe seven — math kids don't count themselves unless it's strategic) absolute legends.

Out of the entire competition, FOUR of the team members placed in the Top 10 overall:

Sam Bailey, Ellie Gibson, Arte McKnab, Annabelle Raschio

Sam Bailey didn't just place — he got 2nd overall and took 1st in the Countdown Round.

He also tries to steal my Oreos.

Coincidence? I think not. If you see him approaching with suspiciously fast mental math, guard your snacks.

Of course, none of this would be possible without their advisor, Ms. Anna...or is she their coach? Teacher? We don't know what she is...but we do know she is the only pregnant woman who can casually tell you the square root of 4,489 without blinking. (It's 67. She didn't even hesitate. It was terrifying.)

Ms. Anna has somehow managed to guide them to back-to-back regional championships while growing an entire human being. That is multitasking at a level I cannot comprehend.

Now they're heading to state - and if regionals taught us anything, it's that middle schoolers from our team absolutely belong in those rooms.

To Sam, Ellie, Arte, Annabelle, and the rest of the squad: you didn't just represent our school. You dominated.

State, Grant Union is coming for you.

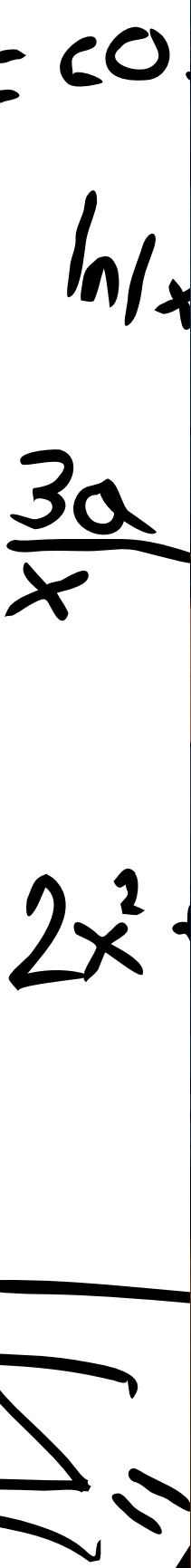
And Sam, stay away from my Oreos.

Reporting live from Yearbook Class - Ember Dutcher



$$\frac{-2Q}{3}$$

3 40



$$5.25 \times 3 =$$

$$\frac{\Delta x}{\Delta z}$$

10