

Ransom Middle School Academic Team - Information and Application - 26-27

Dear Students and Families,

Thank you for your interest in joining the Ransom Middle School Academic Team. Knowledge areas include core academics - English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies, plus current events, sports, and popular culture. There are three styles of competition - Quiz Bowl, Mu Alpha Theta Mathematics, and [Battle of the Books](#).

Applications are available on the bulletin board outside Room 180 in the 8th grade hallway. Please fill in all sections on the application, and email cbrown@ecsdfl.us with student name and parent contact information.

The following items are needed:

- 1 - completed application with parent signature
- 2 - parent/guardian confirmation in email - send a message and wait for a response. Thank you.
- 3 - **2026-27 Annual Drug Consent form** Notary available at front office - parent/guardian must be present. This form is required for several extracurricular activities - so let me know if one has already been done for the 26-27 school year. A master list is maintained for the school.

[After school practices](#) until 5:00 pm on the second and fourth Fridays will be announced in email *at least* two weeks in advance. Absences must be explained to verify interest in continued participation.

New players are always welcome. If you are competitive, have a good memory and love to test your knowledge, please join us!

Sincerely,
Clarissa Brown

We have read the information above and understand

- The main means of communication is through email. *To address liability concerns, parent, guardian, or driver, please provide both an email and phone number able to receive text messages. Thank you.*
- No transportation is available for practice or tournaments.
- Friday afternoon practices typically end by 5:00pm. Please be out front in the car rider line by 4:55pm. *Players habitually picked up late will not be allowed to participate.*

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Sample questions in Quiz Bowl format -

TOSSUP

10. **This function of n is the number of permutations of n distinct items. For the integers from 1 to 5, this function outputs 1, 2, 6, (*) 24, and 120. For 10 points—what function denoted by an exclamation mark gives the product of 1 times 2 times 3 times 4 and so on up through the input?**

answer: (n) factorial function

BONUSES

10. During this woman's trial, she claimed her actions were influenced by her ex-boyfriend Ramesh Balwani [rah-MESH bahl-WAH-nee]. For 10 points each—

A. Name this female Silicon Valley startup founder who in January 2022 was found guilty of wire fraud and conspiracy to defraud investors.

answer: Elizabeth (Anne) Holmes

B. Holmes founded this company, which lied about the capabilities of its "Edison" machine to conduct medical tests with only a few drops of blood.

answer: Theranos [THAIR-uh-nohss]

C. Theranos's fraud was exposed in a 2015 article in this newspaper, whose name refers to a road synonymous with New York's financial sector.

answer: The Wall Street Journal (or WSJ)

TOSSUP

11. **A painting by this artist shows a home he shared with Paul Gauguin [goh-gan] and is called The Yellow House. A cypress tree and swirling clouds feature in a nightscape he painted in an (*) asylum. For 10 points—what Dutch-born painter who mostly worked in late 19th-century France created Starry Night?**

answer: Vincent (Willem) van Gogh ["van GO"]

BONUSES

11. Opera singer Joan Sutherland had the "coloratura" type of this vocal range. For 10 points each—

A. Name this highest of the four standard vocal ranges.

answer: soprano (accept lyric soprano or coloratura soprano)

B. A soprano clef is a stylized version of this letter, placed on the lowest line of the staff. The alto and tenor clefs are also stylized versions of this letter.

answer: C (accept C clef(s))

C. A singer whose range lies between soprano and alto is often described by placing this five-letter Italian word before "soprano." It's also placed before "forte" in a dynamic meaning "medium loud."

answer: mezzo (accept mezzo-soprano or mezzo-forte)

Today's Date _____

Ransom Academic Team Student Information and Questionnaire

Last Name _____ First Name _____ Name you wish
to be called _____

Address _____ Medical Conditions _____

City _____ State ____ Zip ____ Allergies _____

Grade in School _____

Please provide an email address by sending to cbrown@ecsdfl.us and wait for confirmation. Thank you.

I live with my mother _____ father _____ grandparents _____
stepmother _____ stepfather _____ Other _____ Relationship _____

Parent Contact 1 Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Place of Business/Occupation _____ Cell Phone _____

Parent Contact 2 Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Place of Business/Occupation _____ Cell Phone _____

List the names and ages of your brothers and sisters

My birth date is _____. I was born in _____
Month Day Year City State

My favorite subject is _____. The subject I like least is _____.

My hobbies are _____.

After school I like to _____.

What are your goals for practice? _____

Education/Extracurricular Activities

Elementary/Middle	Grade/Year	Activities/Accomplishments – such as music, clubs, School or Organization sports, or Sunshine Math, Battle of the Books, Spelling Bee, Science Fair, Quiz Bowl
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

What high school are you planning to attend? _____

When I finish high school, I would like to _____.

Study Specialties *This should be based on your best knowledge areas and what you would enjoy studying in more detail.*

Major Area (circle one) Literature Social Studies Science Math

Minor Areas – Rank your top three #1, #2, and #3 ... #1 would be your favorite

Philosophy_____

Religion_____

Mythology_____

Sports_____

History_____

Geography_____

Current Events_____

Fine Arts

(visual, music, performance)_____

Other (Specify) _____

What is the single greatest asset that you bring to a team or cooperative group? _____

What unique characteristic distinguishes you from your peers? _____

Is there anything else you would like to share with us? _____
