

**Welcome to the 2026 MCTM Southeast Regional Elementary Math Contest
at Southeast Missouri State University**

Schedule of Events for Saturday, March 28, 2026

7:45 a.m. – 8:15 a.m.	Registration (inside the front entrance of Dempster Hall). Testing will be in Dempster Hall Glenn Auditorium.
8:20 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.	Students should get organized in the assigned room and be ready to begin testing promptly at 8:30 a.m.
8:30 a.m. – 8:40 a.m.	Number Sense Event (Calculators may not be used.)
8:45 a.m. – 9:25 a.m.	Sprint Event (Calculators may not be used.)
9:25 a.m. – 9:40 a.m.	Break (Restrooms are located nearby Glenn Auditorium and on the opposite side of Dempster Atrium)
9:40 a.m. – 10:20 a.m.	Target Event (Calculators may be used)
10:30 a.m. – 10:50 a.m.	Team Event (Calculators may be used) Glenn Auditorium typically has sufficient room for parents and sponsors to view the team event from the back half of the Auditorium.

Lunch (There are many excellent restaurants in Cape. Some university dining opportunities may be available.)

2:00 p.m. Awards Ceremony in Academic Hall Auditorium

A link to a SEMO campus map and photos of Dempster Hall and Academic Auditorium are on pages 5 and 6 at the end of this document.

The qualifying students from your school should be pre-registered for the Southeast Regional Contest by your sponsoring teacher at least one week prior to the contest. The link to pre-register is <http://mathleague.org/register0.php?event=13180>. The \$10 per student registration fee may be submitted when the sponsoring teacher registers the students online. Please have the school sponsor pick up the registration packet between 7:45 a.m. and 8:15 a.m. If you need to submit payment of \$10 per student the day of the contest, that can be done with cash or a check made out to MCTM when you pick up the registration packet. If paying with cash, please have the exact amount. No substitution of participants will be allowed.

Parents and sponsors may wait in the Dempster Hall Atrium during testing.

Students and parents are required to read the [Mathleague Code of Conduct](#) before participating in this event.

Event Descriptions

Number Sense: The test consists of 80 questions and is limited to only 10 minutes. There is no intermediate time signal given; at the end of 10 minutes the students must immediately stop writing (they are not allowed to finish incomplete answers started before the stop signal). The questions are best answered in order; a skipped question is scored as a wrong answer. Since Number Sense is designed to test students' mental math abilities, no calculators or scratch paper may be used during competition. In order for a question to be scored as correct the *exact* answer must be given (no allowance for rounding). The *exception* is where the question is preceded by an asterisk, in which case the student's answer must be within 5 percent of the exact answer for the question to be scored as correct. Five points are awarded for each correct answer while four points are deducted for each wrong or skipped answer. However, questions not answered beyond the last attempted answer (defined as any problem where a mark or erasure exists in the answer blank for that problem) are not scored.

Sprint Event: This is a 40-minute multiple choice test consisting of thirty questions. Students may not use calculators on this test. Four points are awarded for each correct answer, and 1 point is subtracted for each incorrect answer, with no penalty for skipped questions.

Target Event: Four pairs of problems are administered, and students have 6 minutes to complete each pair. Answers must be fully simplified and, where appropriate, given in the format asked for in the question. Although measurement units are not required unless specified, any units written by the student as part of the answer must be correct for the problem to receive credit. Students may use any calculator allowed for use on the SAT. Ten points are awarded for each correct answer, with no penalty for skipped or incorrect answers.

Team Event: One to four team members of various or same grade levels from the same school work together for 20 minutes to answer ten questions. Answers must be fully simplified and, where appropriate, given in the format asked for in the question. Although measurement units are not required unless specified, any units written by the student as part of the answer must be correct for the problem to receive credit. Students may use any calculator allowed for use on the SAT. Ten points are awarded for each correct answer, with no penalty for skipped or incorrect answers.

Strategies to Share with Sponsors and Students

- **Team Formation:** Students should be organized into teams of 1-4 students for the team event prior to the day of the contest. Teams can be made up of 1-4 students of mixed or same grade levels FROM THE SAME SCHOOL; we encourage mixed grade level teams since a fourth grader may be stronger in a particular topic than a sixth grader just because he or she recently studied that topic in school. Every student attending will take the team test.
- The team event will be a part of the Sweepstakes score. A school's Sweepstakes score is obtained by adding the top 4 individual point totals from the school, dividing by 4, and adding the school's top score on the team test. A maximum team total would be 400 points (300 points if the school had four members with perfect individual scores, 100 for the team test). Ties are broken by comparing team test scores (weighted by item analysis). If a school is not comprised of 4 members, there will be a 0 added into the sum for each missing school member before dividing by 4.
- During the restroom break (9:25 a.m. – 9:40 a.m.), students are expected to remain in the area near their testing room. Restrooms are immediately outside Dempster 108 and 109. Students may bring and eat a small snack ONLY during the break between testing. No food or drink is allowed in the testing rooms.

- No student will be allowed to enter a testing session after a test has begun. Students are expected to remain in their assigned area and to refrain from talking throughout the individual testing sessions. Any student making disruptive noises may be asked to leave the room. During the team event, students should talk quietly with their teammates so that they do not inadvertently share answers with other teams.
- Students should bring at least 2 sharpened pencils and a calculator. Any calculator allowed on the SAT may be used (<http://sat.collegeboard.org/register/calculator-policy>). Calculators are allowed ONLY on the Target and Team Events. A student must furnish his or her own calculator. Calculators are NOT allowed on the Number Sense and Sprint Events. Students may NOT use cell phones or be wearing smartwatches during the contest. These need to be put away at all times students are taking a test. **STUDENTS MAY NOT USE CELL PHONES AS CALCULATORS OR TRANSLATORS.**
- Students may not use any dictionaries or other reference materials. If any student's proficiency in the language(s) the tests are offered in is so severely limited as to preclude participation in mathleague.org contests, that student's coach may make arrangements with mathleague.org to provide a written translation of the tests, so long as the translation can be accomplished in a timely and secure fashion, and at no cost to mathleague.org. Any such translation must be approved by mathleague.org before use at a contest.
- Only answers written in the proper spaces will be graded. Any blank space on the test may be used for any work to help you solve the problem. Scratch paper will be provided for the Sprint and Team events.
- Instruct students to not be concerned with writing units unless the question prompts them to do so.
- Fractional numbers must be expressed in simplest (lowest) terms or as an equivalent decimal fraction, unless a ratio is requested. For example, 0.33 is not equivalent to $\frac{1}{3}$ and would be counted incorrect if the answer were $\frac{1}{3}$. All improper fractions should be left as improper fractions.
- Mental computation and estimation items are intended to be performed mentally. Paper and pencil computation may be slower, allowing less time for working problems.
- Each participant will receive a Ribbon of Participation.
- The students earning the five highest scores in Number Sense, Target, and Sprint at each grade level will be recognized. The top five Sweepstakes scores will also be recognized. In each grade level, the top ten combined scores (target score plus sprint score plus one fourth of the number sense score) will be recognized and will participate in the MCTM State Finals Elementary Mathematics Contest. Any student whose score has contributed to the first place Sweepstakes score in Division 5 and Division 6 (the first place overall Sweepstakes team score, NOT the first place team event score) will participate in the MCTM State Finals Elementary Mathematics Contest. At state, all individuals who qualified individually or through the team event will take all events (Number Sense, Target, Sprint, and Team).
- For the Regional and State Math Competitions, there are two different ways that ties are broken for awards. If two students tied with the same score in an event (e.g. Target with a score of 30), their Borda scores were compared to see which student answered the more difficult questions. The student with the lower Borda score would place higher than the other. To break absolute ties in Sprint or Target at either the Middle or Elementary level, we looked at the students' opposing event scores. Say that Students A, B and C are all tied with a score of 30 on Target, all with the same Borda scores indicating they answered the same 3 questions correct. We then look at their Sprint scores. Say Student A has a Sprint score of 60, Student B has a sprint score of 55, and Student C has a sprint score of 50. Then to break the tie on Target, Student A would be first, Student B would be second, and Student C would be third. In Number Sense, if a tie occurs, the students generally have the same number correct and the same number incorrect to get the score they receive. To break this tie, we looked at the two students' sheets, and the student who answered the highest number question correct would receive the higher place. So, for example, Student A's last correct answer is question #30 and Student B's last correct answer is #38; Student B would win the tie.

- In addition to releasing the test materials, results of ALL sites will be available online at <http://mathleague.org/results/elementary/> after the results have been finalized by the site coordinator. Students' names will not be listed; the school's name will be listed and the student's first and last initials. Students will now be able to see how they rank with regard to everyone else at a particular site and across the state. Please encourage all students to understand the penalty for guessing on all events. On Number Sense, they should answer quickly but accurately. On Sprint, students should once again work accurately and generally not guess unless they can narrow it down to 2 choices. It is possible and probable that students will receive negative scores on the Number Sense and Sprint rounds due to not understanding the penalty for incorrect answers. For example, a student who gets 2 questions correct on Sprint and then guesses on the remaining 28 (getting all 28 wrong) would have a score of $4 \times 2 - 28 \times 1 = -20$. On Target and Team, students should never leave a question blank—they should always guess since there is no penalty for guessing.

Any student whose total individual performance at the regional playoff is among the top 10 at the student's grade level in the student's region will be invited to compete in all events at that year's state championship. Also, any team member of the first place overall school in the school's division, based upon the sweepstakes score; or a team member of one of the top 5 schools in the school's division across all regions in Missouri; and one who contributes to the school's sweepstakes score by either having one of the 4 highest individual point totals from the school or being a member of the school's top-scoring team on the team round, will be invited to compete in all events at that year's state championship.

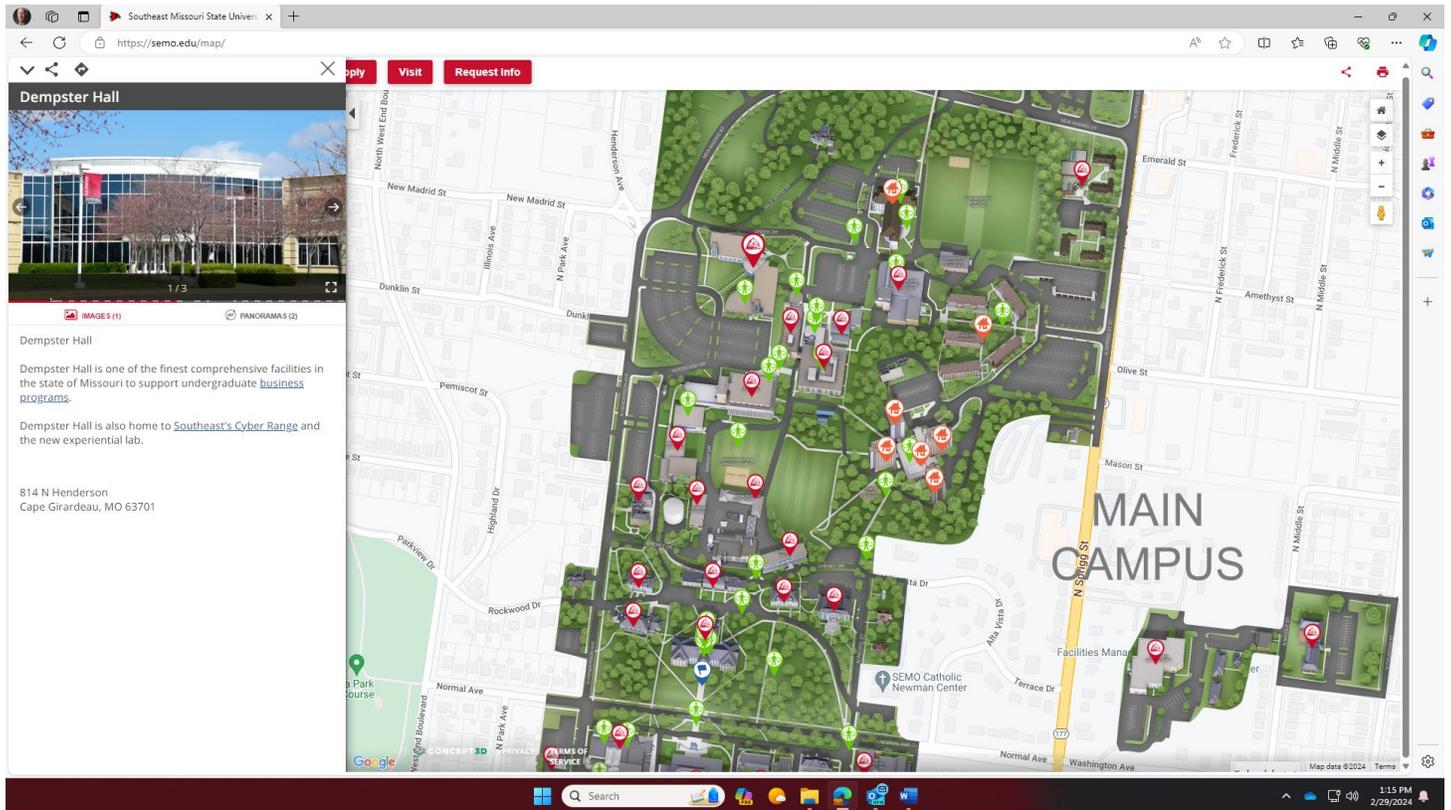
The State Math Competition will be held on Saturday, May 9, 2026, at Rock Bridge High School, 4303 S. Providence Rd., Columbia, MO, 65203.

The registration link and details about the State Contest can be found at <https://moctm.org/mctm-math-contest/mctm-elementary-math-contest.html>

All participants are required to PRE-REGISTER for State at <http://mathleague.org/register0.php?event=13066> by **May 6, 2026**, and please consider paying the \$10 per student online by using the Paypal link at the very bottom of your confirmation email from mathleague. Payment of \$10 per student can be made online by credit card or in person with cash or check made out to MCTM. No substitution of participants will be allowed.

An interactive map of the SEMO campus is available at <https://semo.edu/map/>

Dempster Hall (Registration and Testing) There is a large parking lot for Dempster Hall.



Academic Hall Auditorium (Awards Ceremony) There is limited parking near Academic Hall.

Academic Hall

Inaugurated on May 22, 1906, Academic Hall has been the focal point of campus and the highest structure in the city of Cape Girardeau for more than 100 years.

Academic Hall underwent a major renovation and reopened in 2013. While the building now boasts a refurbished copper dome and updated electrical and plumbing systems, much of its unique character remains. This is especially apparent in the building's mezzanine, or the Dome Room. It offers a view of the historic chalked signatures within the footprint of the Dome, and features an enclosed walkway so Southeast students and alumni can continue to leave their mark on their alma mater.

As a Redhawk, there's a good chance you'll have the opportunity to visit Academic Hall. It's home to several offices including the [Registrar's Office](#), [Cashier's Office](#), the [Office of Admissions](#), [Student Financial Services](#), [Career Services](#), and even the [President's Office](#).

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