Richland Reigns
Captures Math 24 Tournament crown for 4th time in 5 years.

Owen Richwine, above center, won the district’s 2019 Math 24 Tournament. He is flanked by Richland teammates Jackson Connelly, right, who finished second, and Alexia Lopez, the third-place finisher. At left, QCSD Instructional Coach and tournament facilitator Zach Garger, presents Owen with the champion’s T-shirt.
For the fourth time in the five years Richland Elementary School has won the Quakertown Community School District Math 24 Tournament championship.

Richland won the 2019 competition in “overwhelming” fashion, said Mr. Zach Garger, QCSD Instructional Coach and tournament facilitator. Trumbauersville finished second and Pfaff was third in the tournament, which included 40 students, the top eight from each elementary school.

Owen Richwine, Jackson Connelly and Alexia Lopez, all from Richland, were the top three finishers. Collin Waninger, of Trumbauersville, was fourth.

“They are the Patriots of Math 24,” said Mr. Garger, referring to the New England football dynasty that has won six Super Bowls since 2002. He described Richland’s Math 24 coach Mr. Mike Huber as the team’s Bill Belichick.

“There’s such a strong culture in Richland, where only fifth graders make the Math 24 team,” Mr. Garger said. “It has become quite prestigious to become part of that group, and it’s something the younger students work hard to achieve.”

Mr. Garger said all 40 students who competed had to be outstanding, hard-working young people who should be extremely proud of their accomplishments. “These are the top eight Math students from their school,” he said. “They are working through something very difficult, spending lots of extra time on it, and it’s going to help lead them to success in the following years.”

Math 24 is a game that helps students sharpen basic math skills such as computation, problem solving, number sense, critical thinking, and pattern sensing. Students practice during their recess period and at home to strengthen their abilities.

The tournament could not take place, Mr. Garger said, without the extra time put in by dedicated teachers, who work with students during recess and lunch periods to help prepare them for the competition.

Mr. Garger also praised the efforts of Strayer Assistant Principal Greg Lesher and fellow Instructional Coach Lynne Morgan for helping to coordinate the event. He also thanked high school Assistant Principal Jason Magditch and the custodial staff for having the auxiliary gymnasium, where the event was held, in excellent shape.

The district’s top two fourth- and fifth-graders are invited to compete in the Math 24 County Tournament on May 18 at William Penn Middle School in the Pennsbury School District.

Here are the students that have qualified:

**Quakertown**: Jaira Morris, fourth grade; Evelyn Moyer, Casey Roth, fifth grade

**Neidig**: Conner Miller, Miles Voorhees, fourth grade; Ben Arkans, Paige Reiss, fifth grade

**Richland**: Alexia Lopez, Owen Richwine, Jackson Connelly, Ava Mahaney, fifth grade

**Trumbauersville**: Darcy Baxter, Zoe Smith, fourth grade; Collin Waninger, John Babb, fifth grade

**Pfaff**: Jason Marsten, Rosie Troup, fourth grade; Shawn Zhu, Andrew Henry, fifth grade

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