April 20, 2017

Dear parent:

I am pleased that your son or daughter is participating on the Lehigh Valley team in the American Regions Math League. This is the twenty-fifth year that we have participated. Attached is a permission and medical information form, which must be returned to me by May 28. Our registration is not considered complete until that has been received for all students. It is imperative that I receive your form by May 28. You can have your child bring it to practice, or you can mail it to me at Don Davis, Math Dept., Lehigh Univ, 14 E Packer Ave, Bethlehem, PA 18015, or fax it to me at 610-758-3767, or scan and e-mail it. I doubt that just typing your name in the form would be considered sufficient.

Thanks to our sponsors, Paul and Aarati Martino, Google, and Lehigh University, all costs for this year’s trip are covered except dinner on Friday evening and on the way home Saturday. Each participant will need about $15 to cover these expenses.

We will travel to Penn State on Friday June 2 in buses chartered through Lehigh University, driven by professional bus drivers. We will meet at Lehigh University at 12:30 in the parking lot at the corner of Brodhead and Packer. Sometimes students need to make other travel arrangements, for example, if they have a Friday afternoon or Saturday evening activity. We highly prefer that students go with the team, but they can drive (or be driven) late Friday or (very!) early Saturday, or can come with the team but have parents meet them at Penn State for a 3:00 departure on Saturday, if necessary. If your child will not be riding in the bus and/or staying in the dorm, please let me know well in advance.
Team members and coaches stay in a dormitory at Penn State, with two people in each room. There are separate dormitories for boys and girls. There is an official curfew that students must be in their dormitories by 11:00. We require that students be in their own rooms by 11:00, with lights out and no activities after 11:00 other than quietly talking to your roommate. Please impress upon your son or daughter the importance of getting a good night’s sleep and obeying this rule. An “early” bedtime is crucial to our performance on Saturday, especially since everyone must get up at 6:00 to get to breakfast.

We arrive at Penn State about 4:30 Friday afternoon. After receiving their keys in Findlay Commons, students go to their rooms to get rid of their belongings, and then the entire team and coaches will meet and walk downtown together and then break up into groups to go to dinner, which is in any of the many student-oriented restaurants along the street which adjoins Penn State’s campus. The coaches and parents who are there will make sure that the middle school students are in groups with adults or responsible experienced older students. It is nearly a mile walk from the dorm to these restaurants. There are hundreds of ARML participants going to these restaurants that evening. The weather is frequently cold and rainy for ARML, and so students should bring the clothing required for a long walk in such conditions.

Please arrive promptly for our 12:30 departure on June 2. If you have a problem on your way to Lehigh that day which is causing you to be late, call or text my cell phone 610-428-5614. (It is not usually on, but will be for ARML weekend.) We will arrive back at the Lehigh parking lot approximately 9:30 PM on June 3. Since this time is rather indefinite, students will call their parents from the road when we have a better estimate of the expected time of arrival.

Students should bring soap, towel, pillow, and blanket. Note that the dorm does not provide either pillow or blanket. If you have any questions, call me at 610-758-3756 (work) or 610-865-9058 (home). Emergency numbers at Penn State are (814) 865-0465 (dorm) and (814) 863-1111 (police). Or you can call my cell phone.

More information about the trip is available at www.lehigh.edu/~dmd1/arm1trip.html.

Yours sincerely,
Donald M. Davis