

*Lehigh University*

Department of Mathematics  
Christmas-Saucon Hall #14  
Bethlehem, PA 18015

---

Donald M. Davis  
Professor of Mathematics  
E-mail: dmd1@lehigh.edu  
[610] 758-3756  
fax: [610] 758-3767

April 29, 2009

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 seventeenth year that we have participated. Attached is a permission and medical information form, which should be returned to me prior to the day of our trip. Thanks to our sponsors, Paul and Aarati Martino, Google, Lehigh University, and Keystone Consulting Engineers, 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 May 29 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. This year we are going to require that students be in their own rooms by 11:00, with 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 new rule. An "early" bedtime is crucial to our performance on Saturday, especially since everyone must get up before 7:00 to get to breakfast.

We arrive at Penn State about 4:30 Friday afternoon. After registering, 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.

After dinner, ARML students go back to the dorm and usually play cards or frisbee. There is also a popular math lecture at 8:00, which some of our team members have enjoyed in the past, and the preliminary round of the Song Contest, in which our team frequently participates.

Please arrive promptly for our 12:30 departure on May 29. If you have a problem on your way to Lehigh that day which is causing you to be late, call my cell phone 610-428-5614. (It is not usually on, but will be for ARML weekend.) We will arrive home approximately 9:30 PM on May 30. 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).

Yours sincerely,

Donald M. Davis