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MASD Students Qualify for National ALGOA Tournament

Moon Area students will compete against hundreds of peers at the 2010 Academic Games Leagues of America National Tournament in Cincinnati on April 22 – 26 after qualifying at regional competitions.

MAHS freshman Allison Murphy qualified to compete nationally in all three events in which Moon Area students participate and MAMS eighth-grader Dan Walter and sixth-grader Natalie Melton each earned qualifying scores to compete in two events.

MAMS sixth-graders Rachel Boward and Allison Ulven; seventh-grader Dana Murray; eighth-graders Abby Eberts, Ashley Hall and Nora Kupiec; MAHS freshmen Selin Sirinterlikci and Rebecca Zane; sophomores Sarah Kelly, Jenna Murray, Vidisha Sharma and Savanna Starko; juniors Priyeta Panigrahi and April Peng and seniors Zac Liskay and Dan Murray will join Murphy, Walter and Melton at the national tournament after qualifying performances in the elementary, middle, junior and senior divisions in World Events, Propaganda or Presidents categories' regional competitions.

National competitors at the tournament, which welcomes students from seven states, are determined during regional tournaments in six divisions: presidents, equations, on-sets, propaganda, linguistics and world events, held by the area's competing body - Western Pennsylvania Academic Games League. Each division presents students with a unique set of challenges.

Jenna Murray, Starko, Sharma, Murphy and Zane notched a first-place team finish in the World Events junior competition and Zane also notched the second-highest individual score in the event. Walter, Eberts, Hall, Kupiec and Dana Murray also won first-place in the middle Propaganda competition.

Academic Games tournaments started in 1966 and since that time more than 100,000 students have competed in a local match. In Moon Area, sixth-graders through seniors take on peers from seven nearby school districts in elementary, middle, junior and senior divisions.