

Middle School Guidance



March Madness Math

April 2013

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March Madness is all about numbers. Whether you are weighing the difference between this seeded team and that seeded team in your bracket, did you know that economics also plays a vital role in your March Madness bracket? Some hard and fast statistics were gathered by a report from Business Degree about this year's bracketology: Sixty-four million brackets will be filled out, American workers will spend 8.4 million hours watching March Madness games, 4.5 billion dollars will be spent on bracket pools, 3.5 billion will be spent illegally on brackets, 63 games in pool with two possible outcomes per game, a player's chance of picking every outcome correctly within

the pool - one in over twenty quintillion (you have a better chance of dropping a bean bag on the roof of your house from outer space). How big is that number? If every person on earth filled out one bracket every second, it would take 100 years to write in all the possible combinations. If each bracket was stacked up, it would travel from the Earth to the Sun over six thousand times. Winning a mega millions jackpot is fifty-eight million more likely. As you can see from these statistics, a teacher can engage students in many different ways introducing many various mathematical concepts (fractions, decimals, percents and probability just to name a

few) and applying them to March Madness. If you like numbers, this can be a great time of year for you and your students to learn math concepts while enjoying the wild, crazy and thrilling basketball games.

Quote of the month

"Whether you think you can, or think you can't, you are right." (Henry Ford)



**Happy
Easter**

Points of Interest:

- ✓ - Unsure of your grades? Review grades by logging into the PowerSchool parent portal.
- ✓ - Excuses are due the day students return to school. A grace period of three days is allowed before becoming illegal.
- ✓ - Bullying information can be found at: <http://www.bbsd.com/bullying>

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Important Upcoming Events

The following are a listing of important dates to remember:

March 31, 2013 - Happy Easter!

April 1, 2013 - April Fool's Day.

April 1, 2013 - End of third nine week grading period.

April 8 through April 12, 2013 - **P.S.S.A.** Mathematics and Reading Assessment (Grades 5, 6, 7 and 8).

April 22 through April 26, 2013 - P.S.S.A. Science Assessment (Grade 8)

April 30, 2013 - Fourth nine week mid-term.

May 23, 2013 - Middle School Awards Day Program (1:00 - 3:00).

May 27, 2013 - Memorial Day.

June 14, 2013 - Flag Day! Display the colors proudly!

