



# THE PENNINGTON SCHOOL

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**PENNINGTON, N.J., March 5** --- The Pennington School's Odyssey of the Mind teams placed first and third in the Coastal Plains Regional Tournament on Saturday, March 2, in Columbus, N.J. For the eighth year in a row, the School's first-place team will advance to State Finals on April 6. Odyssey of the Mind is an international educational program that provides creative problem-solving opportunities for students from kindergarten through college, according to the New Jersey Odyssey of the Mind website.

Team members work together to solve problems that range from building mechanical devices to presenting their own interpretation of literary classics. The Pennington School took home first place with a perfect score in the "OMer to the Rescue Again" Division II and third place in "Hide In Plain Sight" Division II.

In the "OMer to the Rescue Again" competition, team members traveled in an original team-made vehicle to complete tasks. To complete the tasks, the students had to perform an original skit that included characters and special effects, with an emphasis on running and testing of the vehicle. In the second problem, the team created their own technical device using engineering skills.

The Pennington Middle School teams began their work on the problems in November 2018. To prepare for the competition, the students built a ride-on vehicle, designed and crafted costumes, wrote scripts, made a homemade vacuum, sound maker, LED light circuit, and heat chamber, and designed and painted backdrops.

The top two places in each problem and division advance to the State Finals. Following that competition, the top two teams from each problem and division advance to the Odyssey of the Mind World Finals. For more information, visit <https://njootm.org>.

The Pennington School is an independent coeducational school for students in grades 6 through 12, in both day and boarding programs. The curriculum is college preparatory, with an emphasis on individual excellence, fostering the development of the whole student through academics, athletics, community service, and the creative and performing arts.

Pennington students participating in the Odyssey of the Mind program are listed below, by state and hometown, along with their current grade level:



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## **NEW JERSEY:**

**Ewing** - Samantha Lambdin (7) and Jonah Celentana (7)

**Lawrenceville** - Mason Meyerson (7), Sandhya Mahadevan (7) and Sarah Birkenstock (6)

**Stockton** - Elwyn Evans (6)

**Short Hills** - Helen Sohos (8) and Ilias Sohos (8)

**Pennington** - Nikolas Chase (8), Teagan Walsh (7) Stevenson Sanderson-Bowden (7), and John Fermo (6)

## **PENNSYLVANIA:**

**Langhorne** - Hunter Shaffer (7)

**Yardley** - Benjamin Pearlberg (6) and Francesca Pendus (8)

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**Caption for photo:** The Pennington School team of Middle School students placed first in the Odyssey of the Mind competition on Saturday, March 2.