



## 2018 - 2019 AUDITION INFORMATION

Any student interested in auditioning for the 2018-2019 Northwest Rankin High School Speech and Debate team should send a parent to the **2018 spring informational meeting for parents:**

- Thursday, February 22th, 2018 at 6:30 P.M. in the NWR Library

### **Auditionees must attend *one* of the following audition dates:**

- Monday, February 26th, 2018 at 3:45 P.M. in Room 100
- Tuesday, February 27th, 2018 at 3:45 P.M. in Room 100

### **Auditions will consist of three parts:**

- Students will recite 10-20 lines of memorized poetry - prepared in advance
- Students will read a short excerpt from a prose text
- Students will give a brief, persuasive response to an impromptu speaking prompt

All students interested in being a member of the NWR Speaks team must complete all three portions of the audition.

**For clarification:** Students who consider themselves “debaters” are not exempt from the “speech” portion of the audition, and students who consider themselves “speechers” are not exempt from the “debate” portion of the audition.

### **Auditionees must return the following forms to Mrs. Ray on or prior to their audition time:**

- PARENT CONSENT FORM
- AUDITION APPLICATION FORM

***The 2018-2019 team roster will be posted by the end of the day on Friday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>.***



## AUDITION APPLICATION FORM

Students interested in being on the 2018-2019 Northwest Rankin speech and debate team must complete and return this application to Mrs. Ray by their audition time. Auditions will be held on Monday and Tuesday, February 26 and 27 after school in Northwest Rankin High School room 100.

**Please answer all questions as honestly and accurately as possible.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Graduation Year: \_\_\_\_\_

School email address \_\_\_\_\_@students.rcsd.ms Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Using the provided scale, please answer each of the following questions about yourself.**

\_\_\_\_\_ I am **dependable**. I complete assignments in a timely manner and follow through on commitments.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have a **good attitude**. I work well with peers, am respectful to staff and students, and represent Northwest Rankin High School very well.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am **responsible**. I am trustworthy, punctual, and have strong leadership qualities. I also respond appropriately to instruction and can follow directions.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am **not stress reactive**. I handle the pressure of deadlines with grace, and do not negatively affect other students in my vicinity, particularly in group projects.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am **expressive**. I am willing to provide input and explore creative options.

<b>0 - (F) Unacceptable</b>
<b>1 - (D) Below Average</b>
<b>2 - (C) Average</b>
<b>3 - (B) Above Average</b>
<b>4 - (A) Excellent</b>

**Please provide short answers to each of the following questions.**

1. What speech or performing arts courses have you taken? (Example: Theatre 1, Oral Communication)
2. What extracurricular activities do you do? What activities you intend to do next year?
3. What was your first semester grade in English?
4. Do you take Accelerated or Advanced Placement English Courses?
5. What competitive groups have you been part of? How does competition affect your performance?



## PARENT CONSENT FORM

Dear Parent or Guardian of \_\_\_\_\_:  
(Student Name)

This form must be completed and returned to Mrs. Ray by the audition date for your child to be allowed to audition for NWR Speaks. By signing below you are acknowledging that you understand that he or she must abide by rules and regulations set forth by the team's coaches and the school's principals. You also acknowledge that being a member of NWR Speaks is a **YEAR-LONG COMMITMENT** and that your student is expected to be present at **all practices** and **competitions** that the team attends.

Membership in NWR Speaks requires commitment from both participating students and their families. Team members will each be expected to meet a financial obligation to help offset the price of team membership, tournament fees, and travel costs. Parents will be expected to participate periodically as tournament judges and chaperones. Investment expectations will be discussed in full at the spring parents' meeting.

Students will participate in a week-long summer workshop (schedule TBA) to help prepare for the upcoming season. They will also be expected to document their other independent work over the summer.

Appointments, vacations, etc. during the school year must be scheduled around practices and competitions. Although the coaches will work with individual students to juggle school-sanctioned extra-curricular activities, please work to diminish conflicts with team activities if your child is selected for NWR Speaks.

Any NWR Speaks team member who does not fulfill his or her obligations may be put on probation or removed from the team. The coaches will confer with Northwest Rankin administration about these situations and will make decisions on a case-by-case basis.

**If you have read and understood, and if you accept and agree to abide by ALL rules and regulations, please sign this consent form and return it with your student on or before their audition time.**

My student, \_\_\_\_\_ has my permission to audition for the 2018-2019 Northwest Rankin High School Speech and Debate team, NWR Speaks.

- I agree to the ongoing time commitment NWR Speaks requires.
- I agree that NWR Speaks is a commitment we can make for the entire 2018-2019 school year.
- I understand and agree to the financial investment requirements of NWR Speaks.
- I agree that the NWR Speaks responsibilities and obligations will come first if there is a conflict with my child being involved in other *non-school related* extracurricular activities.

NWR Speaks Candidate Name (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_

NWR Speaks Candidate Parent/Guardian Name (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Email \_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardian Phone \_\_\_\_\_



**Speech and debate is an activity that benefits participants in all aspects of life. It allows students to hone essential communication skills and to improve mental organization capabilities. While it is a challenging pursuit, the rewards are life-long.**

## TOURNAMENT ETIQUETTE

Students representing Northwest Rankin High School in Speech & Debate activities are expected to adhere to all of the guidelines in the Northwest Rankin Student Handbook. The following guidelines serve to clarify any outstanding questions regarding student conduct while traveling with NWR Speaks.

### BEHAVIOR

Students are expected to carry themselves gracefully and formally while they represent Northwest in Speech & Debate events. No student should make a public spectacle of him or herself, and students are expected to obey without contest or complaint all rules set verbally or in writing by any chaperone or coach.

Students are expected to respect themselves and their peers. The possession and/or use of drugs, alcohol, and/or tobacco is strictly forbidden. Parents of students found in the possession or under the influence of such items will be notified immediately and the students will be sent home. Students are expected to support their teammates between rounds and at awards ceremonies. Students should also respond with grace whether they win or lose an event and should celebrate teammates' successes appropriately.

Students are expected to take responsibility for their own belongings. This includes both competition materials and personal items. When tournaments require an overnight stay, students should treat hotel rooms respectfully. Any student found disregarding this expectation will not be allowed to compete for the remainder of the school year.

Students are expected to treat tournaments as formal events, judges as superiors, and tournament sites as significant spaces. Students may ask politely to leave a round only if they are cross-entered, and they will wait patiently for judges to finish writing instead of interrupting. Students will respect the campus of the tournament host. One simple way to show this respect is by discarding all trash in appropriate containers.

Students are expected to maintain their coursework. Missing school because a tournament consumed much of the weekend is unacceptable; no student may use a weekend tournament as an excuse for a Monday absence. Students may not use speech and debate as an excuse to fall behind in other classes. NWR Speaks students are expected to maintain a minimum of A's and B's in all classes. Students should notify a coach if they are struggling in a particular subject area and feel that their grades will fall due to competition.

### ATTIRE

Students are expected to dress in business formal attire. Quality business formal attire can be acquired inexpensively at vendors like T. J. Max and Stein Mart; or secondhand at Goodwill or The Thrift Store at St. Luke's in Jackson. Suits do not need to be expensive, but they must be clean, neatly pressed, and well-fitting.

Gentlemen are expected to wear a tailored suit in a neutral color such as black, navy, charcoal, or grey. Socks, shoes, and any accessories should coordinate with the suit. Men's hair should look professional and be out of students' eyes.



## ATTIRE, CONTINUED

Ladies are expected to wear a tailored suit in a neutral color such as black, navy, charcoal, or grey. Pantyhose must be worn with skirt suits. Accessories should coordinate and should not overwhelm the student or the suit. Ladies are expected to wear pumps or heels but should carry a pair of sensible ballet flats to wear between events. Ladies' hair is expected to look professional and be up and out of students' eyes. (Students competing in physical events like Duo or Humorous Interpretation need their hair all the way up.)

Students competing in Duo Interpretation are expected to coordinate their attire.

Students with specific questions regarding competition attire should have their suit approved prior to their first tournament. Conflicts with the dress code will be handled on an individual basis.

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## INVESTMENT

### FINANCIAL

Students are expected to pay annual team dues which will cover membership in the National Speech and Debate Association (pending 25 points earned in competition), travel and competition fees, certain supplies, and the team shirts. Fee forms and payment scheduling options will be made available to students and parents.

Students will also be expected to pay for their tournament attire and any meals while traveling with the team.

Students willing to invest their time but unable to meet the financial requirements should speak with a coach about financial assistance.

### TIME

Speech & debate is a time-consuming activity, and team members should expect to spend time in preparation independently and as a team, in addition to the time spent at weekend tournaments.

All students wishing to be members of the 2018-2019 NWR Speaks team will be expected to be in the class period dedicated to tournament preparation. Students with questions or concerns about this expectation should speak with a coach or school counselor about making adjustments to their schedule.

### PARENTAL SUPPORT

Parents will be needed to support their students by encouraging practice and preparation outside of scheduled rehearsal times and through participation in various roles at tournaments. Each parent should plan to judge at tournaments; judge training resources are available.



## SPEECH AND DEBATE TOURNAMENT PACKING LIST

### THINGS YOU NEED FOR TOURNAMENTS

- Formal business attire (suits!)
  - » If you compete both Friday and Saturday, consider two suits.
  - » If you compete with a partner in any event, coordinate your suits.
  - » **Ladies' Suit Components:**
    - Jacket
    - Skirt or dress or suit slacks
    - Pantyhose (plus extras) and slip (if suit involves a skirt or dress)
    - Blouse
    - Pumps or wedges
    - Ballet flats (for between rounds only!)
    - Makeup and hair stuff (including spray, gel, bands, etc.)
  - » **Men's Suit Components:**
    - Jacket
    - Pants
    - Dress shirt
    - Undershirt
    - Formal socks (coordinate with your suit; no white socks!)
    - Dress shoes
    - Tie (maybe even two ties)
    - Hair gel (as necessary; out of your eyes!)
- Cash for snacks
- Water bottle
- Lint roller
- Band-aids
- Black binders (if you compete in Prose and / or Poetry and / or POI)
- Scripts and decency clauses (for all prepared events)
- Dry erase marker
- Writing utensils and paper (index cards if you compete in Extemp or Impromptu)
- Laptop (with necessary files DOWNLOADED; **tournaments do not allow wifi in rounds**)
- Cell phone
- USB / flash storage drive (if you compete in Extemp or Policy, or if you otherwise need to share data)
- Chargers (for all electronic devices including cell phones, computers, iPads, etc.)

### THINGS YOU PROBABLY NEED FOR TRAVEL

- Casual, appropriate clothes (for travel)
- Pajamas
- Underwear
- Blow-dryer
- Toiletries
  - » Toothbrush & Toothpaste
  - » Contact solution, case, and extra contacts; glasses
  - » Deodorant
  - » Medications (with prescriptions and permission)
  - » Shampoo, conditioner, body wash, etc.



## INDIVIDUAL EVENTS (IES)

### SPEECH INTERPRETATION EVENTS

#### **DRAMATIC INTERPRETATION (DI)**

A 10-minute interpretation of a cutting from a published work (novel, short story, play or poetry) that is serious in tone and memorized

#### **HUMOROUS INTERPRETATION (HI)**

A 10-minute interpretation of a cutting from a published work (novel, short story, play or poetry) that is humorous in tone and memorized

#### **POETRY INTERPRETATION (POETRY)**

A 10-minute cutting from a published poem (or collection of poems) that uses a manuscript

#### **PROSE INTERPRETATION (PROSE)**

A 10-minute interpretation of a cutting from a published work of prose fiction (short stories, novels) and/or nonfiction (articles, essays, journals, biographies) that uses a manuscript

#### **Program Oral Interpretation (POI)**

A 10-minute interpretation of a cutting from a collection of published works including at least two different genres of literature (drama, prose fiction or nonfiction, and poetry)

#### **DUET ACTING (DUET)**

A memorized 10-minute cutting from a published play involving two people that may use two chairs

#### **DUO INTERPRETATION (DUO)**

A 10-minute interpretation of a published text (a play, a fictional or nonfictional work, or a poem) involving two people that is memorized and does not allow direct focus or contact between students

#### **STORYTELLING**

A 5-minute interpretation of a common story. The Storytelling theme changes each tournament. (9th and 10th grade only beginning with the 2017-2018 season)

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## SPEECH LIMITED PREPARATION EVENTS

#### **EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING (EXTEMP)**

A 7-minute speech prepared in 30 minutes using a pre-prepared file containing published magazines, newspapers, articles, etc. on the student's choice of three topics provided by the tournament director

#### **IMPROMPTU SPEAKING (IMPROMPTU)**

A speech prepared and delivered in 7 minutes using no external sources or pre-prepared material on a topic provided by the tournament director



## SPEECH ORATORICAL EVENTS

### **ORIGINAL ORATORY (OO)**

A persuasive, memorized 10-minute speech on any appropriate subject that is the original work of the student (11th and 12th grade recommended)

### **INFORMATIVE SPEAKING (INFO / INFORM)**

A memorized 10-minute speech on any appropriate subject that is the original work of the student and that is not persuasive (11th and 12th grade recommended)

### **DECLAMATION (DEC)**

A memorized 6-10 minute speech given by someone else at an earlier point in history (9th and 10th grade only)

### **EXPOSITORY (EXPOS)**

A 5-minute informative speech that is the original work of the student (9th and 10th grade only beginning in the 2017-2018 season)

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## DEBATE EVENTS

### **CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE (CD, CONGRESS)**

A simulation of the U.S. legislative process, students generate a series of bills and resolutions prior to a tournament then deliver alternating speeches for and against the topic in a group setting

### **LINCOLN-DOUGLAS DEBATE (LD)**

A one-on-one debate in which students argue the relative merits of a value proposition that changes every two months during the school year

### **POLICY DEBATE (POLICY, CX)**

A debate in which two-member teams of students present and refute well-reasoned cases on an annual topic

### **PUBLIC FORUM DEBATE (PF)**

A debate in which two-member teams of students present dueling extemporaneous speeches on a topic that changes monthly





## 2018-2019 TENTATIVE SEASON TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

### AUGUST

3-4			
10-11			
17-18		MHSAA Coaches' Meeting	Clinton, MS
24-25			
31-(1)			

### SEPTEMBER

(31)-1			
7-8	ACT		
14-15		Warrior Invitational @ Oak Grove High School	Hattiesburg, MS
21-22		Stennis Novice Invitational @ MSU	Starkville, MS
28-29		University of Mississippi Tournament	University, MS

### OCTOBER

5-6		<b>NWR Invitational</b>	Flowood, MS
12-13		Madison Central Tournament	Madison, MS
19-20	ACT		
26-27		Saint's Classic Invitational Tournament @ St. Andrew's	Ridgeland, MS

### NOVEMBER

2-3			
9-10		DeSoto Central Tournament	Southaven, MS
16-17			
24-25	-----	<i>THANKSGIVING HOLIDAYS</i> -----	
30-(1)			

### DECEMBER

(30)-1			
7-8	ACT		
14-15			



NORTHWEST RANKIN  
SPEECH AND DEBATE TEAM

5805 HIGHWAY 25 • FLOWOOD, MS 39232

**JANUARY**

4-5			
11-12			
18-19		Oxford High School Tournament	Oxford, MS
25-26			

**FEBRUARY**

1-2		NSDA Congress Qualifier	TBD
8-9	ACT	University of Southern Mississippi Tournament	Hattiesburg, MS
15-16			
22-23		JCFL Qualifying Tournament	TBD
29-30			

**MARCH**

1-2		Mississippi State University Cowbell Classic	Starkville, MS
8-9			
15-16			
22-23		NSDA Speech & Interpretation Qualifying Tournament	
29-30			

**APRIL**

5-6	ACT	NSDA Debate Qualifying Tournament	
12-13		MHSAA State Congressional Debate Tournament @ Millsaps	Jackson, MS
19-20	-----	<i>EASTER WEEKEND</i> -----	
26-27		MHSAA State Championships	

**MAY**

3-4			
10-11			
17-18			
24-25		NCFL Grand National Tournament* <sup>€</sup>	

**JUNE**

16-21		NSDA National Championships* <sup>€</sup>	Fort Lauderdale, FL
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\*These tournaments require qualification in order for students to compete.

<sup>€</sup>Due to the nature of national competition, these tournaments will also incur additional fees.