

MAKING PUBLIC
SPEAKING AND
DEBATES AN
INTEGRAL PART OF
THE SCHOOL
CURRICULUM

Proposal
By
Bay Area Debate Club



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Rationale

WHY should we make debates & public speaking part of the school curriculum?

Benefits to the students

Mastering the very important and basic skill of effective communication with others is proven to improve the overall confidence and advancement in academics among students. This very important aspect of education is missing in our school curriculum. It is important that schools must supplement this subject. Some teachers and schools implement some lessons on public speaking and debates in their lessons, but teaching these topics with well-defined standards, rubrics and curriculum will bring consistency and benefits our students.

Debates teach some of the necessary skills to the students. Presenting your point is important but it is equally important to listen to the other side. The students practice critical thinking, active listening and reasoning. They become better listeners; get better with their note-taking abilities and more importantly, remain current on some of the current affairs topics.





What will students learn?

Public Speaking Standards

The goal is each student should understand and demonstrate the following important aspects of Public speaking at the end of our courses making Public Speaking Series. We have five different ribbons, which students can earn by demonstrating various checkpoints. In our program, the teachers teach the meaning, importance and ways to achieve each of these public speaking objectives. We have our copyright text books/workbooks, which the teachers use in class to teach. Speaking Series.

During each week, the student gets the opportunity to present their speeches. They focus on one of the aspects of public speaking when given feedback etc. It helps them focus and master one trait at a time. The program is cumulative so it builds up with each week.

Public Speaking Standards PS#

1. Power of Voice: Volume, Speed: Students are easily heard and understood.
2. Body Language – 1: Eye Contact: Students try to maintain eye contact with audience.
3. Body Language – 2: Posture and gestures: Students maintain good posture and use hands to persuade. They must not sway or distract audience with their posture or body language.
4. Body Language – 3: Facial expressions: Students use facial expressions to show emotions
5. Power of Voice: Students demonstrate variation in pitch and pace. They should not be monotonous.
6. Fluency – counting the numbers of ums, ers, likes, long pauses: Students do not use any of the prohibited filler words in their delivery.
7. Confidence – Students appear to be calm and confident. They enjoy talking to the group.
8. Structure of a speech -1: A good beginning: Students demonstrate a good and memorable beginning of the speech.
9. Structure of a speech -2: A strong finish: Students exhibit a strong and memorable finish of the speech.



10. Structure of a speech -3: Students show a well-organized speech that is easy to follow. It should be interesting with sufficient details.
11. Structure of a speech -4: Timing Students should have an appropriate length of speech (not too short or long).
12. Use of index cards: Students should be able to deliver a speech using index cards.
13. Speaking through memory (no paper or index cards): Students should be able to deliver a speech without the use of paper.
14. Different types of speeches -1: Presenting a story (narrative): Students write and present a story.
15. Different types of speeches -2: Presenting poetry: Students write and present poetry.
16. Different types of speeches -3: Presenting persuasive/argumentative speech: Students are able to write and present persuasive speeches.
17. Different types of speeches -4: Introducing someone/thank you speech: Students are able to write the speeches of these kinds.
18. Different types of speeches -5: Impromptu speeches: Students are able to write and present speeches quickly (5 minutes of prep time to present 2 minutes of speech).
19. Using A/V aids- 1: Presenting the speech with charts/props : Students are able to write and present speeches with charts/props
20. Using A/V aids- 2: Presenting the speech with power point: Students are able to make power points and write accompanying speeches and then present them.
21. Research and General Knowledge: student must know and heard some of the classic speeches example I have a dream. They must have some knowledge of good speakers.

◦ **Ribbon Tracking System of PS Standards**

White: Student earns a white ribbon on demonstrating standard PS #1, 2, 3

Yellow: Student earns a yellow ribbon on demonstrating standard PS# 4, 5 and 6, and 7

Green: Student earns a green ribbon on demonstrating standard PS#8, 9, 10, 11

Orange: Student earns an Orange ribbon on demonstrating standards PS#14, 15, 16, 17

Blue: Student earns an Orange ribbon on demonstrating standards PS# 18, 19, 20

Gold: Student earns a gold ribbon on demonstrating all the standards.



Debate Standards

The goal is each student should understand and demonstrate the following important aspects of debates at the end of our courses making Debate Series. We have four different ribbons, which students can earn by demonstrating various checkpoints. In our program, the teachers teach the meaning, importance and ways to achieve each of these objectives. We have our copyright text books/workbooks, which the teachers use in class to teach. During each week, the student gets the opportunity to participate in debates.

1. Reasoning Skills: Students should be able to provide good reasoning in support of their points they make in debates.
2. Structure: Students demonstrate a good structure in their debates by listing the important points first and maintain a good flow throughout the debate.
3. Listening Skills: Student should be able to make flow diagram of the debate noting the points of their opponent. Students should be able to refer the flow to refute the opponent's points clearly in their refutation.
4. Critical Thinking: Student should be able to come up with good rebuttal of the opponents points.
5. Timing: Student should be able to use the allotted time effectively for each of the speeches and prep time.
6. Research: Students should be able to collect and provide evidences, data and cite sources in support of their side of debates in their speeches.
7. General Knowledge: Students should be able to demonstrate understanding of the current affairs debates and list points on both sides of the topics.
8. Research and Organization Skills: Student should maintain a binder/note book with reference articles, research material on important debates.
9. Impromptu Debates: Student must be able to debate if the topic is given 15-20 minutes before the debate.
10. Presentation and Delivery Skills
 - 10.1. Power of Voice: Volume, Speed: Students are easily heard and understood.
 - 10.2. Body Language – 1: Eye Contact: Students try to maintain eye contact with audience and judges.
 - 10.3. Body Language – 2: Posture and gestures: Students must maintain good posture and use hands to persuade. They must not sway or distract audience with their posture or body language
 - 10.4. Body Language – 3: Facial expressions: Students use facial expressions to show emotions



10.5. Power of Voice: Students demonstrate variation in pitch and pace. They should not be monotonous.

10.6. Fluency – counting the numbers of ums, ers, likes, long pauses: Students should not use any of the prohibited filler words in their delivery.

11. Confidence – Students appear to be calm and confident. They enjoy talking to the group.

12. Formats: Students demonstrate to have some basic knowledge of the various formats of debates.

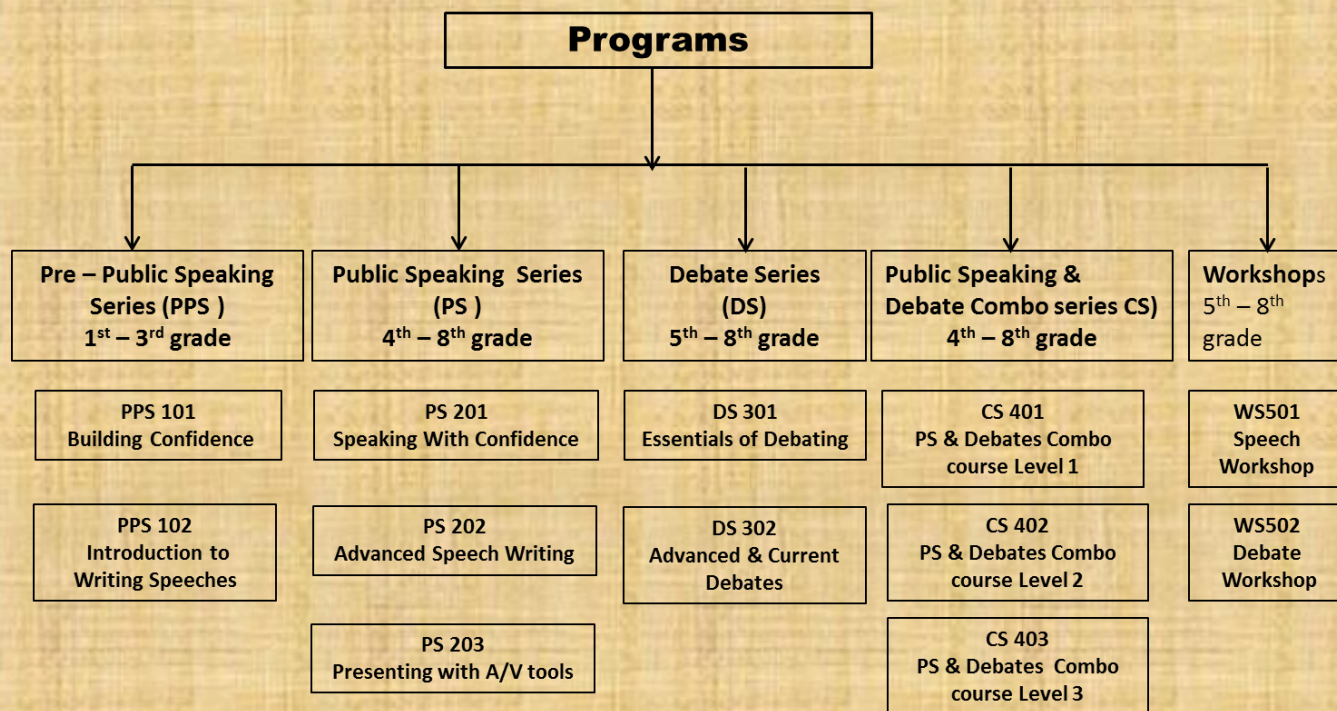
◦ Ribbon Tracking System of DS Standards

Blue: (Essentials of Debating) Student earns a Blue ribbon on demonstrating standards DS #1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Red: (Research and Advanced Debates) Student earns a yellow ribbon on demonstrating standards DS# 6, 7, 8

Purple: (Persuasive and Confident Speaking) Student earns a purple ribbon on demonstrating standards and DS# 10, 11

Striped: (Overall Debating Skills) Student earns a striped ribbon on demonstrating all the DS standards.



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Curriculum

Pre-Public Speaking Series (1st–3rd grds)

The mission of this series is to provide opportunities to young students to learn these basic soft skills early on. There are two courses in this series to accomplish the goal.

PPS 101 Building Public Speaking Confidence

This program teaches young students the essentials of building confidence in public speaking. The participants learn how to stand tall and speak confidently in front of a large group. They begin to understand the concepts and importance of body language, bringing variation in speed and tone. The students learn the concept of public speaking using fun concepts like show and tell, storytelling, and poem recitals among others.

PPS 102 Introduction to speech writing

This program leads young students to basic writing skills. They learn how to write speeches in six easy steps. They begin to learn how to give a structure to their thoughts. The students learn different ways to open and close the speech to make it interesting. They continue to practice speaking with confidence. It gives them a head start for the advanced courses in Public Speaking and Debates

Public Speaking Series (4th – 8th grade)

Mastering the very important and basic skill of effective communication with others is proven to improve the overall confidence and advancement in academics among students. The mission of this program is to improve each participant's confidence, communication and make him an overall presenter using fun and friendly ways. In these classes, students learn how to manage public speaking anxiety, present themselves with confidence, and connect with their audience through effective and clear speech. There are three courses in this series to accomplish the goal

PS 201 Speaking with Confidence

This class focuses on teaching delivery and presentation skills to the students. Students learn how to manage public speaking anxiety, present themselves with confidence, and



connect with their audience through effective body language. It improves their confidence in public speaking and communication skills. They learn different approaches of preparing for a speech example speaking from notes or from memory. The goal of this course is by the end of the session a student should be able to stand tall and speak confidently and fluently in front of a large group for at least 2 minutes.

Ps 202 Structure your Speech

The aim for this class is to have each participant write a well-structured engaging speech. Kids at this age usually find it challenging to organize their many! ideas. This class focuses in helping participants give a clear structure to their thoughts. Students study how to write speeches on different kinds of topics and for different occasions. They learn to write speeches on descriptive, expository, narrative, process, cause and effect types of topics as well as speeches for social occasions and ceremonies. They practice speaking with confidence.

PS 203 Presenting with A/V tools

Speakers can use audio and visual aids to make their speech more effective and memorable for the audience. The students learn to use props, Power Point presentation, charts, diagrams, models, drama and other audio/visual aids to get their point across. This class prepares students to become a complete presenter. Students thoroughly enjoy the hands on way of presenting their speeches.

DEBATE SERIES (5th – 8th grade)

Our Debate classes are very popular among students and parents! It helps students understand all sides of a subject matter. Presenting your point is important but it is equally important to listen to the other side. Students become better listeners; get better with their note-taking abilities and more importantly, it improves their overall general knowledge on a variety of current topics. The students learn essentials of Debating. They learn how to make strong arguments by providing reasoning and evidence. The participants debate on a variety of their age appropriate topics in various formats.

DS 301 Essentials of Debating

This class teaches essentials of Debating. The students learn how to make strong arguments, use tools like flow, practice note taking. This course instills critical thinking



in students by providing reasoning and evidence. This course introduces various formats of the debates popular in high school. The participants debate on a variety of their age appropriate topics in various formats.

DS 302 Current and Advanced Debates

This class explains various debate formats to the students. They learn how to write full-length constructive and refutation speeches for various debate layouts. They begin to do research and debate on more involved and current affairs topics. It not only improves their speaking and critical thinking skills but also expands their general knowledge on current issues and other matters.

Combo Series

These options of classes are ideal for students who want to learn how to speak confidently, persuasively and learn the formats of debating in one course.

CS 401 Public Speaking and Debates Level 1

This is a combo course of PS 201 and DS 301

CS 402 Public Speaking and Debates Level 2

This is a combo course of PS 202 and some of DS 301 and DS 302

CS 403 Public Speaking and Debates Level 3

This is a combo course of PS 203 and DS 302

Workshops

Public Speaking and Debate Workshops are ideal for students who understand the basics of debating and are confident speakers. These workshops are suitable for students who are looking to prepare for tournaments. These are typically 2-3 day workshops with 2 or 3 hours each followed by a tournament in most cases.



WS 501 Public Speaking Workshop

This workshop updates students about the rules, judges' ballots in various speech tournaments. They practice writing, speaking and preparing for tournaments.

WS 502 Debate Workshop

This workshop updates students about the rules, judges' ballots in various debate tournaments. They practice writing speaking and preparing for tournaments.



Bay Area Debate Club

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HOW can we integrate public speaking & debate in the school curriculum?

IMPLEMENTATION DETAILS

- **SCHEDULE**

Weekly one hour enrichment period

Each class will have an hour once a week scheduled for this enrichment period. The teachers of Bay Area Debate Club will go to the classrooms and teach this period. The club will provide the books and other material necessary for the class. The class teachers can use this time as a prep time in class.

- **BUDGET/PRICING**

In-School hours

Bay Area Debate Club will invoice the school/district once a month.

TEACHING CHARGES: \$100 / hour

BOOKS: \$10 per book (once a year)

After-school hours (Parents paid program)

Bay area Debate Club will take registration online from parents.

\$80 per student per month



About US

Bay Area Debate Club conducts basic and advanced courses and tournaments in Public Speaking and Debates throughout the Bay Area. Our classes are held at various public school campuses and city locations for students from 6 years – 14 years of age. We are contracted by various cities like City of Mountain View, Livermore, San Ramon, Pleasanton, San Carlos, Newark and Moraga. We are approved by many school districts to run during school hours or after school program on the public school campuses, including Fremont unified, Burlingame School District, Milpitas Unified, Sunnyvale Unified, Mountain View Whisman School District and Berryessa Unified. We are also welcomed by community and tutorial centers wanting to expand their services like India Community Center, Nirmitee Tutorial Center, Pleasanton, Best in Class, Fremont, TLC, San Jose and others. We also offer workshops for Gifted and Talented student's organizations like Lyceum, Santa Clara and TGIF.

We have helped thousands of students overcome the fear of public speaking and provide forums to engage in constructive debating. Our classes and especially summer camps are very well attended. Our staff includes highly qualified and talented teachers. The teachers have educational background in English, Theater Arts, Communication Studies or Literature. The coaches have extensive experience in Public Speaking, teaching, Theater, and have authored books and plays. Please visit our website www.bayareadebateclub.com and on Facebook Bayareadebateclub to know more about us. All the teachers have been live scanned and current on their TB test.

We host Speech and Debate tournaments throughout the Bay Area called BEST (Bay Area Speech Tournament) and DEBT (Debate tournament).

Our Locations are located in the cities of

Burlingame, Fremont, San Carlos, Santa Clara, San Jose, Newark, Pleasanton, Walnut Creek, Livermore, San Ramon, Milpitas, Sunnyvale, Los Altos, Mountain View, Tracy and others.



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