

Fishers Speech and Debate Team

www.fhsspeech.com

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Why Join Speech and Debate?

Speech and Debate allows you to compete as part of a team

But it also gives opportunities for individual success

It appeals to students with different skill sets and interests

- Theater
- Mass Media
- Current Events and Issues
- Argumentation

It is a very flexible commitment

- You set your own practice schedule
- You choose how involved you want to be at Saturday tournaments

What happens next?

Novice Practices/Event Meetings Start Monday, August 30th. Varsity Practices/Event Meetings Start Tuesday, September 7th

Team Auditions the Week of September 20th

After auditions, we will set the team roster, add students to Canvas, and set up the individual practice schedule

Practice Meet and Team Party, Saturday, October 9th

First Meet Saturday November 6th at FHS. Meets Continue on Saturdays.

Mandatory Parent Meeting Thursday September 30th.

State Debate January 28th and 29th

State Speech March 12th

You choose your level of involvement--- we accommodate almost any schedule, but the more you do the more opportunities you will have to keep competing

What is involved in a commitment to the team?

- Students must practice once per week per event they want to compete in. Practices are typically 30-60 minutes, depending on the expectations for that event.
- Most practices can be scheduled around your other commitments--- we will have coaches and team leaders available to lead practices before and after school every day.
- Some events require students to attend group practices (it is difficult to practice Discussion by yourself, for example). We will do our best to schedule those practices to accommodate the needs of the students who wish to participate in them.
- All of our competitions are on Saturdays. Students can choose which tournaments they wish to attend--- no one is expected to attend every tournament. But the more tournaments you attend, the more opportunities you have demonstrate your commitment before we need to start cutting them team down to our State rosters after Winter Break.
- All students will need to help find volunteers to judge at our Saturday tournaments, with a minimum expectation of one judge per semester. These judges do not necessarily need to be parents, just high school graduates who are willing and able to give up a Saturday to help.
- Students will wear business attire for tournaments--- jacket, tie, etc. for gentleman, similarly appropriate attire for ladies. If you are unable to purchase appropriate attire please let Mr. Kennedy know so the team can help out.

How will practices work in the weeks leading up to the auditions?

- We will offer group meetings/practices only during the three weeks before the auditions. This is because we will be working with a large number of students, and we can't add all of those students to the Canvas class or the Remind account.
- We will take attendance at these sessions, but attendance is not a requirement.
- These sessions should be helpful to complete newcomers, but also to returning competitors who want to get started working on pieces/cases.
- Students are welcome to attend as many meetings as they like. We will offer additional meetings for students who need help understanding the events in general.

What is the audition process?

- In order to be added to the team roster and compete this season, students **MUST** participate in a scheduled audition during the week of September 20th.
- These auditions will **NOT** be used to cut students from the team, nor will they be used to set up mandatory events/partners/etc. to individual students.
- They will be used for students to demonstrate commitment to the team. It is also an opportunity for the different coaches on our staff to see all the students who will be competing with us this season.
- If you have something prepared for your individual event, then you can present that at your audition. If not, we will have materials for you to do a cold read.
- After the audition, students will be given the necessary paperwork for getting added to Canvas, the permission forms and information about dues, etc.
- Students who do not complete an audition during that week will not be allowed to join the team this season. Anyone with conflicts or other issues that would make that difficult should contact Mr. Kennedy in advance so that we can make alternate arrangements.

How will practices work following the auditions?

- The practice schedule will be on the Canvas page for the team. Students will need to be added to Canvas in order to sign up.
- We will take attendance at each practice. Student mentors will be responsible for following up with team members if they are not attending practice consistently.
- Students who do not regularly practice will not be allowed to attend competitions and may be removed from the roster.

What are dues? Are there opportunities for fundraising?

- Team dues are \$100.
- We will do our traditional sucker sale fundraiser for students who would like to participate. The team will sell you a bag of suckers at cost, and you are then welcome to sell them however you like to offset the cost of your dues.
- Any students who have financial difficulty that might prevent them from paying for dues should talk to Mr. Kennedy.

Where can I go for more information on the different events?

- Team website: <https://fhsspeech.com/Event.html>
- State organization: <https://www.ihsfa.org/resources>
- National organization: www.speechanddebate.org

What should I do if I don't know what I'm doing/what I want to do/who my partner could be?

- Start coming to the event meetings and we will help you out!
- Attend different event meetings to see what all we have to offer, even if you aren't sure if you want to pursue that specific event (or even want to be involved).
- Invite friends to join with you. This is an open commitment until the September 20th auditions.

Attendance--- You need to check in here in order to get added to our email distribution list:



Group Practices--- How to Prepare for Audition Week
All Group Practices Will Meet in the Studio, H236

Week of August 30th

	3 PM	3:30 PM	4 PM	4:30 PM
Monday	Intro to Speech and Debate		Extemporaneous Speaking and Impromptu	
	Public Forum Debate			
	Humorous Interpretation			
	Prose Interpretation			
Tuesday	Original Oratory			
	Duo Interpretation			
Wednesday	Intro to Speech and Debate	Radio Broadcasting		
	Congress Debate		Informative Speaking	
Thursday	Original Performance		Dramatic Interpretation	
	Lincoln Douglas Debate			
Friday	Intro to Speech and Debate	Discussion		
	Poetry and POI			

Week of September 6th

	3 PM	3:30 PM	4 PM	4:30 PM
Monday	LABOR DAY NO SCHOOL			
Tuesday	Duo Interpretation		Oratory and Informative	
			Humor and Prose	
Wednesday	All Event Q and A		Radio Broadcasting	
	World Schools Debate		Oratory and Informative	
Thursday	Dramatic Interpretation		Original Performance	Poetry and POI
	Policy Debate			
Friday	Extemporaneous Speaking and Impromptu			

Week of September 13th

	3 PM	3:30 PM	4 PM	4:30 PM
Monday	Public Forum Debate Humorous Interpretation and Prose		Discussion	
Tuesday	All Event Q and A	Extemporaneous Speaking and Impromptu		
	Oratory			
	Duo Interpretation			
Wednesday	Congress Debate		Informative	
Thursday	All Event Q and A	Radio Broadcasting		
	Original Performance		Dramatic Interpretation	
	Lincoln Douglas Debate			
Friday	Poetry and POI			