

Welcome to Washington Gifted Speech Team 2018!

Welcome students and parents to Speech Team 2018! My name is Miss Nelson and I am very excited to coach the speech team again this year. This will be my fourth year coaching the WGMS Speech Team! I was very involved in speech and theatre in high school, at Downers Grove South, and judged several tournaments in college, at Bradley. I know that we will have a great speech season!

We will have our first meeting on Tuesday August 28th. This will be an informational meeting for all **new** speech team members. It will run from 2:35-4:15pm.

All meetings and practices will be done by 4:15pm. Please arrange to pick your child up by 4:15pm or have them ride the activity bus. If your child is not picked up by 4:15pm they will ride the activity bus.

Students will attend ONE afterschool practice a week. Practices will take place on most Tuesdays and Thursdays after school from 2:35pm-4:15pm.

The tournament will take place October 26th at Peoria Norwood. Specific details will be announced as they become available. All students who participate in speech are required to attend and compete in the IESA Speech Tournament and attend Preview Practice on Thursday October 11th. The tournament on October 26th will be during the evening. The Preview Practice will be held during normal after-school practice, however it will be different than regular practice in that students will be performing their pieces in front of the team and giving each other feedback (mock tournament style).

Please sign-up for speech team updates using Remind at - remind.com/join/wgmsspeech

The main objectives of speech include:

1. Help students develop their speaking voice and skills in oral communication
2. Help students enter into the world of literature and to communicate this world to an audience
3. Develop student's poise, self-confidence, and self-worth through public speaking

Students may participate in up to 3 events. Students may participate in multiple performances in the same scripted event, as long as the selection is different. For example, a student could compete in 2 regular duet actings as long as each entry was a different script. In order to compete in an improv event, students must also compete in at least one scripted event. There is a \$5 per event registration fee.

- **Individual Events:** Solo Acting, Poetry, Impromptu Speaking (7th/8th Grade Only), Original Script, Storytelling.
 - **Solo acting** – a theatrical presentation by an individual student. This may be a monologue or a selection in which two or more characters are portrayed. 5-10 minutes
 - **Poetry** – One or more selections of poetry. 4-7 minutes
 - **Original Script** – The student will present a speech which they have written. The speech may be a monologue, poetry, short story, essay, or presentation. 5-10 minutes
 - **Storytelling** – the student will present a story from their own life experience, from folk literature, from their family's oral tradition, or from any other source. Storytelling is unique from most other contest events in that it should have a very spontaneous quality encouraging audience participation and interaction. 5-10 minutes

- **Impromptu Speaking** – Students are given eight minutes to prepare and deliver an original speech. The student will be given two words or phrases from the judge and will then choose one and discard the other. They then will have 8 minutes to write and present the speech. 0-8 minutes (7th/8th Grade Only) ****Must also compete in a scripted event****

- **Duet Events:** Duet Acting, Improv Duet (7th/8th Grade Only), Original Script Duet
 - **Duet Acting** – Students may perform one or two humorous or serious selections within the time frame. Presentations must have direct dialogue or conversation between two contestants portraying any number of characters, who speak to off-stage characters or to silent characters. 5-10 minutes
 - **Original Script Duet** – The students will present a speech they have written. The speech must be a duet. The work must be the product of one or both of the students. 5-10 minutes
 - **Improv Duet Acting** – The judge shall give the team a prompt to be played humorously. Either of the contestants shall use the prompt, as given, as an opening line. No consultation time shall be allowed; the contests must begin the scene immediately. After the scene has progressed for approximately two minutes, the judge will say “stop”. The procedure is then repeated with a prompt to be played seriously, and a final prompt to be played humorously. (7th/8th Grade Only) ****Must also compete in a scripted event****

- **Small Group Events:** Small Group Acting, Team Improv (7/8th Grade Only), Chorale Reading
 - **Small Group Acting** – A serious or humorous presentation by 3 to 5 performers characterizing 3 or more persons presenting one selection within a time limitation. 5-10 minutes.
 - **Choral Reading** – Chorale groups of 9 to 20 members must present two or more selections within the time limitation. 6-10 minutes
 - **Team Improv** - Each team comprising of between 4-6 performers shall stand before the judge at the appointed performance time. The judge shall select the participants and game to be played by the team from the approved list. No consultation time shall be allowed; the performers must begin the game immediately. After approximately two minutes the judge will say “stop”. The procedure is then repeated with two more games. 0-12 minutes (7th/8th Grade Only) ****Must also compete in a scripted event****

Please sign and return the next page to Miss Nelson by **August 28th** to participate

Any parents who would be able to come and help watch student performances and give feedback during practices would be greatly appreciated!

Questions? Contact Miss Nelson at kelly.nelson@psd150.org

Tentative Calendar

August

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		15 - First Day of School	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28 - New Team Member Meeting, Permission Slips Due	29	30 - Returning Members Only Practice	31

September

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3 - No School	4 - Practice	5	6 - Practice	7
10 <i>Pieces must be selected this week!</i>	11 - Practice	12	13 - Practice	14
17	18 - Practice	19	20	21 - Practice
24 - Practice <i>Individual practices must be scheduled with Miss Nelson for all events</i>	25 - Practice	26 - SIP DAY	27 - Practice	28 - Practice ***ENTRY FEE DUE***

October

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 - Practice	2 - Practice	3 - Practice	4 - Practice	5 - Practice
8 - Practice	9 - Practice	10 - Practice	11 - PREVIEW PRACTICE	12 - Practice
15 - Conferences	16 - Conferences	17 - <i>Fall Break</i>	18 - <i>Fall Break</i>	19 - <i>Fall Break</i>
22 - Practice	23 - Practice	24 - Practice	25 - Practice	26 - TOURNAMENT @ Peoria Norwood

***Speech Celebration will be scheduled when the tournament results are available

***Additional invitational tournament may be added

***Additional practices may be added as needed

Student Name: _____

Grade: 5 6 7 8

Student Homeroom: _____

Year on Speech Team: 1st 2nd 3rd 4th

Parent Phone Number: _____

Parent Email: _____

Parent Name: _____

I am interested in participating in the following speech events (you may participate in up to 3 events)

If you are interested in a partner/group event, please talk with the people you would like to work with and **agree** on your working together.

- ____ Solo Acting
- ____ Poetry
- ____ Original Script
- ____ Storytelling
- ____ Chorale Reading
- ____ Original Script Duet Acting – I'd like to work with (1 person) _____
- ____ Duet Acting – I'd like to work with (1 person) _____
- ____ Small Group Acting – I'd like to work with (2-4 people) _____

7th/8th Grade Only (can only be one of your 3 total events)

- ____ Team Improv – I'd like to work with (3-5 people) _____
- ____ Impromptu Speaking
- ____ Improv Duet Acting – I'd like to work with (1 person) _____
- ____ I would be interested in being a peer coach for younger team members

**** Students must pay \$5 per event to register due by September 28th ****

I agree to:

- ____ Attend one practice a week
- ____ 3 missed weeks of practices and I will be dismissed from speech
- ____ Bring my script to all practices
- ____ Maintain academic eligibility
- ____ Have a ride waiting for me at 4pm after practices or I will be placed on the activity bus at 4:15pm
- ____ Attend the tournament on October 26th at Peoria Norwood
- ____ Attend the speech preview night on October 12th at WGMS
- ____ Memorize my performance by October 11th
- ____ Demonstrate dignity, respect, and achievement during all speech activities
- ____ Notify Miss Nelson if I am having difficulty meeting any of these expectations so she can help me problem solve

Parents – *circle any that apply* I am able to help with practices I am able to help with competition

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____