

## **Tournament Speech**

Ms. Rowan

### **Course Description:**

This course is designed to build confidence, poise, and eloquence in speaking, as well as to prepare students for speaking events that are offered in local, state, and national competition. These include Oral Interpretation of Prose and Poetry (varsity and novice), Dramatic Interpretation, Original Oration, Duo Interpretation of Literature, and Declamation (a novice event). Students enrolled in this course are expected to attend local competition, and must provide adult judges for these events. Students may take Tournament Speech for more than one year.

### **Expectations:**

- Students will select a category, choose a speech, and cut the speech
- Students will use class time to practice voice, expression, inflection, and enunciation
- Students will also practice gestures and movements
- Students will prepare for competitions and evaluations
- Each student must go to at least 2 tournaments by the end of the semester

### **Grading:**

Students' grade is based on using class time effectively, handing in written assignments, and completion of 2 tournaments.

### **Interpretation and Speech:**

**Dramatic Performance** - Students present selections from published plays, screenplays, fictional or non-fictional works that are either serious or humorous in nature. The selections must be memorized with a maximum length of ten minutes.

**Duo Interpretation of Literature** - A presentation by two participants of a single selection of literature. Each performer may present one or more characters. Each character should be sufficiently developed and should interact meaningfully with the other characters. The sections must be memorized. Movement should be limited and suggested rather than exaggerated. The maximum length is ten minutes.

**Extemporaneous Speaking** - Each student draws three topics on current issues; chooses one and has thirty minutes to prepare a speech of a maximum length of seven minutes. Any periodical or other published material is permitted in the preparation room. Students may

not refer to any written notes during the speech.

**Oral Interpretation of Literature** - Students present selections in two categories -- prose and poetry. Each selection must be a maximum of ten minutes in length. The student must hold a manuscript and appear to be reading. The students alternate between rounds of prose and rounds of poetry.

**Oratorical Declamation** - Open to students in the ninth or tenth grades only. Students must use a speech or portion of a speech previously given by another person. The speech must be memorized with a maximum length of ten minutes.

**Original Oratory** - Students prepare original orations, usually persuasive or informative on a current topic. Any topic is permissible and any form of oration is permitted. The presentation must be memorized, with a maximum length of ten minutes.