



SPEECH and DEBATE CLUB

FAMILY PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

Mission Statement

We believe it is God's desire that young people learn to communicate both effectively and winsomely. Therefore, we as parents and students will work together toward the goal of being fully equipped to communicate, persuade, influence and lead others toward the Kingdom of God. The process of developing and refining these skills is a means to greater spiritual awareness, camaraderie and maturity. All this must be accomplished with an emphasis on personal humility and servanthood while exercising the gifts God has given to each young person.

Foundational Scripture

12 His intention was the perfecting and the full equipping of the saints, that they should do the work of ministering toward building up Christ's body, 13 that it might develop until we all attain oneness in the faith and in the comprehension of the full and accurate knowledge of the Son of God; that we might arrive at really mature manhood – the measure of the stature of the fullness of the Christ, and the completeness found in Him. 14 So then, we may no longer be children, tossed like ships to and fro between chance gusts of teaching, and wavering with every shifting wind of doctrine, the prey of the cunning and cleverness of unscrupulous men, in every shifting form of trickery in inventing errors to mislead. 15 Rather, let our lives lovingly express truth in all things – speaking truly, dealing truly, living truly. Enfolded in love, let us grow up in every way and in all things into Him, Who is the Head, even Christ, the Messiah, the Anointed One.
Ephesians 4:12-15 Scripture quotations taken from the Amplified Bible, Copyright © 1987 by The Lockman Foundation. Used by permission.

Affiliation/Eligibility

The Club is affiliated with the nonprofit speech organization called 'STOA'. (see www.stoausa.org) For a family to be eligible to participate in Control Speech and Debate, students must meet the eligibility criteria for STOA participation. This criteria can be found at: <http://www.stoausa.org/membership>.

In order to compete in STOA tournaments, families must become a STOA member as well. Parents are required to review and, if necessary, confirm their student's eligibility directly with STOA and to pay dues directly to STOA.

Student Participation – Students are expected to show respect and kindness toward other students and all parents at all times. The following guidelines are required.

Students shall:

1. Attend meetings only when accompanied by a parent.
2. Serve and assist fellow students with an attitude of humility and thankfulness.
3. Exhibit behavior that demonstrates respect for your fellow students and their parents as your brothers and sisters in Christ. Toward this end, we do not use cell phones during Club meetings.
4. Dress in a modest manner that reflects respect for your fellow students and their parents as your brothers and sisters in Christ.
5. Complete assignments and tasks in a thorough and excellent manner according to the gifting God has given you. Know that those who do so, will be those who are given first opportunity at the Club meetings.
6. Help with set-up before the meeting and clean-up after the meeting.
7. Recruit judges for local tournaments.

Parent Participation – This is a parent-led club. Therefore, active participation by the parent(s) is crucial to their proper equipping as outlined in the Mission Statement.

Parents are required to participate in the following ways:

1. The attendance of at least one parent is a requirement, not an option. (Another responsible adult relative may accompany the student under exceptional circumstances.)
2. Work with your child at home on their Speech/Debate preparation and assignments.
3. Participate in Club meetings by assisting in encouraging, critiquing, food prep, set-up, clean-up and other related tasks.
4. Volunteer to act as a Judge and, with your student, recruit Judges for any local tournaments.
5. Assist at any local tournaments with logistics, food prep, set-up, clean-up, judging, timing, and other related tasks.
6. In the event of any misunderstanding or conflict, we agree to abide by the principles outlined in the Peacemaker’s Pledge (see <http://www.peacemaker.net>)

Statement of Faith

Trusting in Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior, I believe:

- There is one God eternally existing in three persons: the Father, the Son (Jesus Christ), and the Holy Spirit. (Matthew 3:16, Matthew 28:19, John 10:30, 2 Corinthians 13:14)
- Man is sinful and therefore separated from God, who is holy and perfect. (Isaiah 53:5-9, Romans 3:23, I Peter 1:15-16)
- Jesus Christ paid the eternal penalties for our sin through His death on the cross (Luke 24:46, I Peter 2:21)
- Jesus Christ also resurrected bodily and ascended into heaven and will return one day to fulfill His kingdom. (Matthew 28:6, Revelation 19:11)
- Only through Jesus Christ and the grace of His provision of salvation, may we be saved from eternal punishment, enter into God’s family and receive eternal life. (Ephesians 2:8-9, Romans 6:23, Romans 8:11, I John 1:9)
- The Bible is the inspired, inerrant, infallible and authoritative Word of God and the truth for Christian faith and practice. (2 Timothy 3:16-17, 2 Peter 1:20-21, John 17:17, 1 Thessalonians 2:13, Psalm 19:7-11, John 6:67-69)

I have read the statements contained in this Participation Agreement and agree with them.

Parent Signature

Student Signature

Student Signature

Student Signature

Check box if you are willing to have your contact information shared with others in the Club.