

BI-COUNTY ACADEMIC CONTEST PERSUASIVE SPEECH JUDGES RULES

After the contest is over, thank each student for participating.

All contestants will hand to the head judge their completed name cards. These cards are used to determine the order of the speakers and will be used to fill out individual evaluation sheets, by the judges, before the contestant begins. After all the cards are collected, the order of the speakers is randomly selected from the cards. Each judge will use one form for every contestant. These forms will be returned to the schools' coordinators and eventually to each student.

Contestants will remain in the room of competition until all speakers are finished. Audience should also be asked to remain in the room for the entire contest. Judges should ask disruptive audience members to leave between speakers. Judges should not allow people to enter the room once the contest has begun.

One judge will time length of the speech with the stopwatch provided. No time signals will be given to the contestant during the speech. Timing begins with the student's introduction: Name, School, and Topic. The speaker must cite a source/author.

TIME LIMIT: 2-4 minutes

Speeches shorter or longer than the time limit should have a reduction in score on the individual evaluation sheets, in "Time" section.

After all the students have been scored, the judges will rank places 1-6 based on the total points and placement on the Sliding Scale form. The Sliding Scale forms will not be seen by the participants or the school coordinators. These forms are solely to assist the judges. The results are recorded on the Final Judges Form. All judging material is to be returned to the scorer's room/table. **Please –no ties.** We only have one ribbon for each event and each place. Each event should have three judges in order to gain consensus on place awards and prevent ties. (There are 22 events, with First through Sixth place being awarded with ribbons. Every participant receives a "Participant Ribbon" as well.)

PERSUASIVE SPEECH

This event gives the orator free choice of subject and judges him/her on the effectiveness of its development and presentation. A student participating in the Persuasive Speaking event should:

1. Choose a topic that can have more than one point of view.
 2. State his/her point of view clearly.
 3. Build a case that convinces others that the speaker's point of view is the most appropriate.
- Students are encouraged to select a new topic each year.
 - No visual aids or other materials will be allowed.
 - Students are encouraged to memorize their speeches; however note-cards may be used. Strict reading from the note-cards should be discouraged and marked down on the score sheets.
 - Normal school dress, no props or costumes allowed.

Judges will consider content and delivery. However, as this is a contest in speech rather than material, the emphasis should be placed on the delivery. Originality and composition should be considered primarily in the way they are employed to make effective speaking possible.

The participants in the Persuasive Speech contest will be judged as to whether or not they have convinced the judges that they are sincere and believe in what they are saying concerning their chosen topic. The list below suggests possible items to consider in preparing the persuasive speech.

1. Ask a question
2. Explain or define
3. Describe
4. Tell a story to illustrate points
5. Make an observation
6. Use information from reading or research
7. Use Evidence (cite a source when appropriate)
 - a. Authority
 - b. Majority opinion
 - c. Your own experience
 - d. Emotions – use feelings to help you convince
 - i. Power
 - ii. Reputation
 - iii. Affection or likes and dislikes
 - iv. Sentiment
 - v. Taste – appreciation of beauty
 - e. Reasoning
 - f. Suggestion
 - g. Your opinion