

## **SPEECH AND DEBATE: WHO CAN JOIN? WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS?**

Any Cupertino High School student or incoming freshman with NO "F's" and a minimum 2.0 GPA is eligible to compete on the Speech and Debate Team. All members must compete in at least one tournament during the course of the year. To be eligible for competition, team members must attend three consecutive practice meetings for their chosen event before the tournament they have entered. Failure to do so will result in the team member being disqualified for that tournament.

## **TIME COMMITMENT**

The Speech and Debate Team season starts with practice in August and September and does not end until the final competition in June. Practices begin in September. There may be optional summer practices/duties/camps as well. Much of the material learned during the fall will be necessary for competition and will not be re-taught, but instead assumed as learned and built upon, so a member's attendance to these practices makes for a stronger individual and a stronger team. Once school begins, practices will generally be Speech on Mondays during lunch in room 103, and Debate on Wednesdays from 3:15 – 4:15. These practices are in Ms. Perry's room, 103 and may be changed or rescheduled as necessary. Competitions will be on Saturdays throughout the year (approximately one per month). Team members must be at all functions that they sign up for on time and their parents must agree to help carpool to away competitions and help with the judging at events. Monthly calendars will be given to each member at least 2 weeks before the upcoming month. In addition, a team calendar is available online at <http://www.tinosd.org>. Please try to fit appointments around scheduled practices. Missing practice hurts everyone. Therefore, if a member misses any of the three practices before his or her scheduled competition for any reason, he/she can be removed from the upcoming competition. Multiple absences will result in possible probation/suspension.

## **CONDUCT**

Once a student has been selected as a Cupertino High School Speech and Debate Team member, he/ she must adhere to the following rules and regulations:

- ✓ Member must maintain a grade point average of at least 2.0 and no "F's" on any grade reporting (including progress report) dates. Failure to do so will result in suspension from team until the next grade reporting. There will be no refunds for suspensions.
- ✓ Each member is expected to behave IN and OUT of class in an appropriate manner, and must adhere to all Cupertino High School Rules and Regulations. You are a representative of Cupertino High School at all times!
- ✓ Courteous behavior to all team members and fellow competitors, judges, and tournament officials is required. This includes being prepared for team or partner events, and accepting the ruling of the tournament judges without complaint.
- ✓ Courteous and friendly behavior to fellow students, other students, team members, advisors, teachers, and administrators is MANDATORY.
- ✓ Good attendance at school and practice is required. Tardy or Truancy letters will place a member on suspension for that month's competition..
- ✓ "In" School suspensions or suspensions from school will be handled at the discretion of the advisor and/or school administration.
- ✓ **UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL PROFANITY, DRUGS, SMOKING, OR USE OF ALCOHOL BE PERMITTED AT ANY TIME ON OR OFF CAMPUS!**

Any situation involving a member which may be deemed as poor conduct, whether previously listed or not, will be handled at the discretion of the advisor and/or school administration. Members will be disciplined accordingly. The advisor has at all times, the authority to enforce any other disciplinary action that is appropriate for the professional well being of the squad.

## **COST**

The financial breakdown of being on the Speech and Debate Team will be \$30.00 for membership along with additional fees for competition. Fundraising will be conducted during the year to help alleviate costs for all members, so all members are required and expected to engage in any and all fundraising efforts.

### Application for Speech and Debate Team

My child \_\_\_\_\_, has my permission to join the Cupertino High School Speech and Debate Team. I understand that he/she must abide by the rules and regulations set forth by the advisor and the administration of Cupertino High School and be present for all required practices and compete in at least one tournament. I have read the rules and regulations, and I understand that the violation of any of these rules may lead to temporary or permanent suspension from the team. (This includes, but is not limited to academic eligibility and school debt). I further understand that veteran team members must have completed the previous year in good standing, as per their contract agreement. I understand that all forms attached must be completed and turned in before my child will not be allowed to compete. I understand that my child must attend **at least the three consecutive practice sessions before a scheduled competition** or my child will not be considered eligible for competition. I understand that my child will be engaged in competitions that will be on other school campuses and that I will be required to engage in carpooling and will be a judge for competitions throughout the year. I also understand that there will be a fee to join the team and there may be additional fees for individual competitions.

I acknowledge that I have carefully read this form and the complete information packet and that I understand and agree to its terms.

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
Mother/Legal Guardian                      Date

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
Father/Legal Guardian                      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mother/Legal Guardian's Cell Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Father/Legal Guardian's Cell Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
email address

For Student:

I am interested in being a Speech and Debate team member at Cupertino High School. I understand the time commitment and conduct rules as stated in this packet. I promise to abide by the rules and regulations set forth by the advisor and the administration of Cupertino High School. I promise to cooperate and follow the instructions of the Speech and Debate Coach.

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature    Date

Student Name (Please Print): \_\_\_\_\_

(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone

\_(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Cell Phone