

# Mountain Vista High School

## Speech and Debate

### Program and Policies

2018-2019



## CONTACT INFORMATION

<b>MVHS Activities Director</b>	<b>Mr. Rob Ceglie</b>	<b>303-387-1500</b>
<b>Coach</b>	<b>Shannon Vance</b>	<b>720-626-0927</b>
<b>Debate Captain</b>	<b>Abhi Bhandari</b>	<b>720-383-8993</b>
<b>Speech Captain</b>	<b>Greyson Koinzan</b>	<b>303-883-4579</b>
<b>Congress Captain</b>	<b>Olivia Smith</b>	<b>720-668-4612</b>
<b>Parent Liaison</b>	<b>Prakash Bhandari</b>	<b>303-330-7443</b>



**Facebook: Speech Veteran**



**Twitter: @speech\_veteran**



**Instagram: mvhs\_speech\_debate**

# Mountain Vista High School Speech and Debate Program

2018-2019

Welcome to Speech and Debate at Mountain Vista High School! To continue the honorable tradition here at Mountain Vista, our team must exude determination, hard work, and pride. Each individual will be responsible for leading and teaching, as well as learning new techniques and possibly new events.

The coach for the MVHS Speech and Debate team is Shannon Vance. In addition, a number of veterans and other volunteers will help team teach, lead, and guide all members. **Meetings will be held weekly** even if there is not a tournament in the upcoming week; **each member is required to attend meetings** unless he/she has academic reasons (making up a test, assignments, etc.) that would hinder attendance at such. Students should make the coach aware of this ahead of time. Students unable to attend meetings will be under review for participation in upcoming tournaments.

Speech and Debate consists of public speaking events in which students compete against each other on a weekly basis. Mountain Vista categorizes this into three main categories—interpretation events, supplemental events, and debate events. Interpretation events include the interpretation of humorous, dramatic, and poetic literature that is performed in accordance with established rules and in a certain time frame. Debate events include two of the most common forms of high school debate—Lincoln-Douglas Debate and Public Forum Debate, though as a team we also compete in Congressional Debate. Supplemental Events include Original Oratory (a self-written piece that is informative and persuasive), International and National Extemporaneous Speaking, and Student Congress. If students have questions about particular events or need directions, they should speak with Mrs. Vance.

**FEES** for Speech and Debate Varsity Season are similar to other district activities and run \$200 per year. This includes entry fees, supplies and case briefs, academic lettering materials, and National Speech and Debate Association (NSDA) Membership. Fees for overnight trips (if any), and supplies will not be covered and will require additional fees. Team t-shirts are included in the fees if paid in full by October 1.

**The set fee for the 2018-19 season is \$200. You must pay \$100 by October 1st and the remainder (\$100) by November 1st. OR you may pay it all at once. Each week failure to meet dues beyond November 1st will result in an additional \$20 per week.** If a student qualifies for the State Tournament and/or decides to attend the National Qualifying and/or attends out of state tournaments, additional fees will be required and must be paid separately.

**Additionally, there is a \$150 Booster Club team fee (tax deductible) that is required. This will help offset costs of travel expenses for out-of-town tournaments. Information for this is in a parent packet available under separate cover.**

Novice tournament fees (for new students only) will be paid separately and in cash to the coach prior to the tournament(s). Accommodations may be made for students who are not able to meet these fees. Please speak to the coach directly.

**PRACTICES** will begin after school starting **Tuesday, August 28th**. Practices are held Tuesday afternoons from 3:00– 5:00 pm in U312. Speech and Debate provides returns based on how hard each participant works. To compete at the highest level, you will need to work individually outside of school or with your debate partner to achieve success. The coach and captains will provide advice, guidance, and support but ultimately your performance is a reflection of your work and time. Mrs. Vance will do her best to meet with students on an individual basis by appointment.

**COMPETITIONS** are held primarily on Saturdays, usually lasting all day. The exception is After School Congress (held on Tuesdays from 4 -8 PM) and some Friday afternoon/evening tournaments attached to the following Saturday tournament. While there are a number of opportunities for tournaments, students are not required to compete in every tournament scheduled. Sign ups will take place at practice and will be made available to students via email in a Google Doc. Make sure to sign up early, as there is a limit to the number of students who may compete from each school. If you

sign up for a tournament, you are expected to attend. If you cannot attend for any reason, you **MUST** let Vance know as soon as possible. Dropping a tournament anytime after the tournament “closes” will cost the team, and subsequently, you, a drop fee (\$20). **You are responsible for your own transportation to and from the tournaments.** Please do not be late on either end of the tournament. Carpooling is encouraged but not organized by the team. Please communicate with Mrs. Vance over any concerns. Please also sign and return the transportation release form as required by DCSD prior to October 1.

By varying the schedule and giving some time to reflect on events, students and coaches will avoid burnout and perform at a higher level. The novice season begins in October and concludes with the first varsity tournament early in November. The remainder of the tournaments are at the varsity level, and any student expecting to letter must meet the lettering requirements. Additionally, we may be involved in various fundraising activities throughout the year to either help pay for tournaments/transportation fees. Team members will be encouraged to take an assertive role or may be asked to help out of necessary. We have a booster club to which your family/friends may make tax-deductible donations.

**NOTE:** Vista is hosting the CHSAA State tournament this year on March 22 - 23 and co-hosting the DougCo Invite with other DCSD schools. For both of these all members (not competing) are expected to be on site and available for the duration of the tournaments to help.

Follow the team on **Twitter**@speech\_veteran, Instagram: **mvhs\_speech\_debate**, or Facebook: **Speech Veteran**.

**FOOD:** Each week, we can use help with supplying food for tournaments. Since many of the tournaments are all day endeavors, it is important to have an abundance of food and drinks for the competitors. Many food items that can be purchased early and “stockpiled” for the season. Any assistance from families in this area would be greatly appreciated. Costco and Sam’s Club- sized items are perfect! Due to budgetary restrictions, the team will not supply food en masse at tournaments. **Please note, food (meals and snacks) will be available at the tournament through the host school *for purchase* by individual students. A sign-up sheet (via SignUpGenius) will be provided via email to students and parents.**

## **BASIC TEAM RULES & EXPECTATIONS**

**BEHAVIOR:** Behavior on the team will reinforce cooperation, learning, and understanding. Students will be expected to follow all school rules and regulations.

- Students who misrepresent the team in any way will be subject to consequences that may include being removed from the team.
- Students will support each other. Bullying, teasing, and harassment of any kind towards any student (MVHS or otherwise) will not be tolerated.
- Be courteous to all coaches, judges, and fellow competitors. Do not make public comments. If you have concerns find Mrs. Vance or another MVHS coach with whom to discuss them. A captain is not sufficient enough.
- Respect the property of the host school.
- You will carry on the tradition of MVHS excellence and honor. Conduct yourself with integrity and respectability at all times. Do not brag in victory nor make excuses in defeat.
- Students should remember they are part of a team; isolationist attitudes are not welcome. We are a family. Be present for one another; be kind; and be engaged.

### **TOURNAMENT ATTENDANCE:**

- Sign up for tournaments by the deadline.
- Be on time to tournaments and your rounds. Disqualification may be a consequence of not following this.
- If you are late, you will be required to pay any incurred drop fees.

- Notify Mrs. Vance (720-626-0927) ASAP if you are unable to attend a tournament that you have signed up for. You may have to pay a fee if you drop a tournament if you have already been registered and the deadline to drop has passed. The deadlines are posted on the signup sheets. Check with a coach if you are unsure.
- DO NOT leave the tournament at any time without permission from a coach.
- DO NOT leave the tournament if ANY team member has broken to any finals rounds. Team members will support any students who “break” and will stay for awards. DO NOT LEAVE EARLY.

**AWARDS:**

- All awards will stay in the display case until the student graduates.
- State and National trophies stay and become school property.

**Tournament Rules and Consequences**

**INAPPROPRIATE/DISRESPECTFUL/RUDE BEHAVIOR:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> offense – Conference with coach, call parents, suspension from next tournament (you incur any fees)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> offense – Call home, referral, *drop from team*.

**PLAGIARISM:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> offense – Conference with coach, call parents.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> offense – Call home, referral, *drop from team*.

**VANDALISM/MALICIOUS BEHAVIOR:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> offense – Call parents, send home at student expense, referral and *drop from team*.

**DRUG/ALCOHOL VIOLATION:**

- 1<sup>st</sup> offense – Any team member who attends practice, a tournament, etc. under the influence will face suspension/expulsion, and may be dropped from the team at the discretion of the coaches and/or administration.

**\*\*Remember that your behavior at the tournaments reflects not only on yourself but also on MVHS, the entire speech team, the Douglas County School District, National Speech and Debate Association, and the State of Colorado; therefore, you are expected to represent all of us appropriately and professionally at all times.**

**DRESS CODE**

Speech and Debate competition is one of the most conservative, professional activities in which high school students participate; therefore, the competitors should dress accordingly. Remember you are representing our school and yourself. Please be a positive role model. Please discuss clothing with Mrs. Vance if you are unclear. Coaches have the right to remove any student from competition who does not meet the dress code requirements for acceptability.

**WHAT TO WEAR**

<p><b>Males:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dress Shirts (button up with collar, ironed, and tucked in)</li> <li>• Dress Pants (dark or khaki)</li> <li>• Tie (regular or bow tie)</li> <li>• Dress shoes with appropriate socks (<u>not white</u>)</li> <li>• Belt (black or brown to match shoes)</li> <li>• OPTIONAL: Jackets/suits/sweater vest</li> </ul>	<p><b>Females</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suits are optional but strongly encouraged</li> <li>• Skirts (not short)/Pants &amp; Nice Shirt</li> <li>• No Lycra or spandex or leggings</li> <li>• Conservative Dress (be modest with cleavage)</li> <li>• Dress Shoes (Careful on heel height!)</li> <li>• Hair Pulled Back or neatly styled</li> <li>• Minimal makeup and jewelry</li> </ul>
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**GROOMING:** Be sure you are clean and presentable. Brush your hair and have it neatly styled. Shower. Clean/brush your teeth. Wear deodorant. Have clean fingernails. Remove chipped nail polish. Clean your glasses. Do not chew gum during competition. Put your best self forward. Judging is more than just your speaking and debating! This may seem obvious; believe me - people need to be reminded even in high school.

## **LETTERING, NSDA POINTS, CHSAA, and HONOR CORDS**

**The end-of-the-season banquet is on Tuesday, April 23, 2019 from 6 - 9 PM in the MVHS commons. Save the date!**

### **LETTERING:**

20 Credits will letter. Credits will be earned by:

1. Attending a Varsity Tournament –1 point
2. Breaking at a Varsity tournament—2 points (per event)
3. Providing a Judge to a Varsity Tournament—2 points (Per tournament and must stay for 3 rounds)
4. Qualifying for a State and/or National Tournament or Placing there- 3 points (Per Tournament)
5. Earning 100 NSDA points--2 points (1 point for every 50 after that)
6. Consistent practice attendance (1 point per every 5 practices attended)
7. Fundraising and Special Event participation (if applicable) 1 point per event
8. No final grade lower than a C in any class.
9. No disciplinary problems or suspensions from tournaments/events

### **NATIONAL SPEECH AND DEBATE ASSOCIATION**

The National Speech and Debate Association is a national honor society for speech and debate students founded in 1925. The NSDA encourages and motivates high school students to participate in the forensic arts of debate, public speaking, and interpretation. The NSDA oversees the National Tournament. Points are earned and reported for each round of tournament competition to the national office as follows. See the NSDA website at [www.speechanddebate.org](http://www.speechanddebate.org) for more information. **All team members must register on this site.** See Mrs. Vance or a captain for information. Juniors with more than 750 points may be eligible for an Academic All-American status and must be nominated by a coach.

- Debate: 6 for each win, 3 for each loss
- Extemp and Oratory: 6 for first place, 5 for second, 4 for third, 3 for fourth, 2 for fifth or lower
- Interpretation Events: 5 for first, 4 for second, 3 for third, 2 for fourth, 1 for fifth or lower.
- Congress: up to 24 points per day
- Judging (Novice): 2 points for each round judged *if student has earned a degree of excellence or higher.*
- Service - value based on activity that promotes debate in the community

Mountain Vista High School Speech and Debate is a member of **CHSAA** (Colorado High School Activities Association). This organization strives to create a positive and equitable environment in which each qualified student participant is challenged and inspired to meet his or her highest potential. CHSAA promotes fair play, equitable participation, and personal development through respectful behavior, character education, teamwork, leadership, and citizenship. You may find more from [chsaa.org](http://chsaa.org). Eligibility to compete on the team is subject to CHSAA rules and regulations.

### **SPEECH AND DEBATE HONOR CORDS**

Students may earn a silver and red speech and debate participation cord upon successful [application](#) (see Mrs. Vance or print from the link) and with the following considerations. Honor cords are an honor and represent student member accomplishments and affirm their commitment to speech and debate education. In order for a senior to earn a Speech and Debate Cord at the Senior Awards and Graduation Ceremonies the following criteria must be met:

- Accumulate 250 NSDA points (Distinction Level or higher - 25 points must be service points)
- Minimum of cumulative 3.0 GPA **AND**

Complete at least TWO of the criteria below

- Earn at least 2 Varsity Letters previously in Speech and Debate
- Break/Qualify to the State Tournament
- Break/Qualify at an NSDA Qualifying Tournament
- Serve successfully and fully as a Team Captain for at least one full school year

## 2018-19 Mountain Vista Forensics Schedule

NOVICE TOURNAMENTS [Competitions for those new to speech and debate. Varsity members are judges.]

October 2	CCHS Novice Congress @CCHS
October 13	Bruin Novice (Cherry Creek HS)
October 27	Great Pumpkin CO NSDA Novice & Congress (Castle View HS)

VARSITY TOURNAMENTS [Everyone is Varsity after October How far you go is up to you!]

November 3	Creek Classic (Cherry Creek HS)
November 6	AFTER SCHOOL CONGRESS (Cherry Creek HS)
November 9 - 10	The 5280 (George Washington HS)
November 30 - December 1	Mile High Tournament (University of Denver)
December 4	AFTER SCHOOL CONGRESS (Cherry Creek HS)
December 8	Winter Wonder (Cherry Creek HS)
December 15	SMART Academy Invitational (Strive Prep SMART Academy)
January 4 - 5	Demon Invite (Golden HS)
January 12	Patriot Games (George Washington HS)
January 15	AFTER SCHOOL CONGRESS (Cherry Creek HS)
January 18 - 19	Colorado Cup (Mullen HS)
February 2	Douglas County Invite (Chaparral HS)
February 5	AFTER SCHOOL CONGRESS (Cherry Creek HS)
February 9 - 11	**Stanford Invitational (Palo Alto, CA)
February 16	Columbine Invitational: The Rebellion (Columbine HS)

### QUALIFYING TOURNAMENTS

February 22 - 23	CHSAA Region II State Qualifying Tournament
March 8 - 9	Rocky Mountain South District NSDA Qualifying Tournament
March 22 - 23	CHSAA State Tournament - <b><u>Mountain Vista HS</u></b> (That's US!)
April 5 - 6	Rocky Mountain South District NSDA Congress Qualifying
Tournament	
June 16 - 21	**National Tournament Dallas, Texas

\*\* Indicates an out-of-state tournament.

### BANQUET

**APRIL 23 TEAM BANQUET at MVHS Commons 6 - 9 PM**

### **Out-of-Town Tournaments**

If we elect as a team to travel out of town to attend a tournament, or if you qualify as a member of the team for an out-of-town tournament, the appropriate paperwork must be on file with Mrs. Vance, Mr. Ceglie, and DCSD. You must be in good-standing on the team to travel. You will assume all travel-related costs (including airfare/vehicle rental, hotel, food, and incidentals) with the exception of tournament fees, which will be paid by the team *if funds are available*. If we are traveling as a team, the coaches will make team reservations for hotels, car rentals, airfare, etc...and divide the cost evenly among student competitors who will also cover all the cost for the necessary chaperones. Space may be limited and restricted.

Coaches and MVHS admin will make final decisions.

**PLEASE SIGN (FRONT AND BACK) AND RETURN TO MRS. VANCE BEFORE**

**October 1, 2018**

Acknowledgement of Rules and Fees for the 2018-2019 MVHS Speech and Debate Season.

I understand the rules and policies set forth in the aforementioned packet and agree to abide by them. I understand that, if I decide to continue past novice season, the fees for the team will be

- \$200 [optioned to be payable in two installments (\$100) due on October 1 and November 1, 2018].
- \$150 for Booster Club dues (payable by check to MVHS Booster Club for Speech and Debate) - please note that the funds will be for *MVHS Speech and Debate* and this must appear on the check for credit.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Contact \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Contact \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**STUDENT AND PARENT OR GUARDIAN ADVISEMENT AND PERMIT**

Colorado High School Activities Association Rules and Regulations state that no pupil shall participate in interscholastic activities until he/she is on file with the appropriate office: (a) a statement signed by his or her parent or legal guardian that he/she has the consent to participate and (b) a statement from a practicing physician certifying that the pupil is physically fit to participate in high school interscholastic activities.

**WARNING:** Although participation in supervised interscholastic athletics and activities may be one of the least hazardous in which any student will engage in or out of school, BY ITS NATURE, PARTICIPATION IN INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS INCLUDES A RISK OF INJURY WHICH MAY RANGE IN SEVERITY FROM MINOR TO LONG-TERM CATASTROPHIC. Although serious injuries are not common in supervised school athletic programs, it is impossible to eliminate the risk. Participants can and have the responsibility to help reduce the chance of injury. PLAYERS UNDERSTAND AND, BY THEIR PARTICIPATION, AGREE THAT THEY MUST AND WILL OBEY ALL SAFETY AND TRAINING RULES, FOLLOW DIRECTIVES OF THE COACHES, PROMPTLY REPORT ALL PHYSICAL PROBLEMS TO THEIR COACHES, FOLLOW A PROPER CONDITIONING PROGRAM AND INSPECT THEIR OWN EQUIPMENT DAILY. By signing this Permission Form parents and student acknowledge that they have read and understand this warning. PARENTS OR STUDENTS WHO DO NOT WISH TO ACCEPT THE RISKS DESCRIBED IN THIS WARNING SHOULD NOT SIGN THIS PERMISSION FORM.

We understand that coaches, trainers and team physician may use their own judgment in securing medical aid and ambulance service in cause of an emergency or in mild injuries where parents cannot be reached. Also the team physician, trainer and/or coach may apply first aid treatment until the family physician can be contacted.

I have read the foregoing, acknowledge the "WARNING" above, accept the risks described and agree to abide by the principles and regulations contained therein.

X \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Student (Please print name after signature.) Date

We have read the foregoing, acknowledge the "WARNING" above, accept the risks described and hereby give consent for the above named student to participate in interscholastic athletics within the Douglas County School District Re. 1 in the following Colorado High School Activities Association approved sports except those crossed out: Baseball, basketball, cross country, football, golf, gymnastics, soccer, swimming, tennis, track and field, volleyball and wrestling. Consent includes spirit teams, managing and training unless crossed out.

X \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent or Guardian (Please print name after signature.) Date

I fully understand the Douglas County School District Re. 1 does not provide accident, health or life insurance coverage for the above named student while he/she is participation in the activities associated with interscholastic sports. I/We further understand that it is my/our responsibility to provide adequate insurance coverage to the above named student.

X \_\_\_\_\_



Signature of Parent or Guardian

Date