

Twenty-first Annual District Speech Contest (K-8)

February 5, 2026

6:00 p.m.

Boulder Creek Elementary

**RULES**

Theme of Presentation: Must relate in some way to our “American Heritage”

Length of Talk: Not less than 3 minutes

Not more than 5 minutes

**\*\*Penalty points will be deducted if the talk is too short or too long and if they are prompted or use notes.**

Contestants will be judged on the following criteria:

- Content – importance and suitability of material. It should convey in some way a patriotic message. **Emphasis on Patriotic and American Heritage** (think historical figures such as former presidents, civil rights leaders, heroes, famous speeches like “I Have a Dream”), It does not have to be an original speech (i.e., The Gettysburg Address). In recent years some topics have strayed away from the original intent of the contest.
- Organization – does the speaker make his or her purpose clear and not ramble?
- Presentation and Style – Diction – vocal variety or monotone – use of gestures.
- Poise – Self-assurance, appearance, eye contact.
- Effectiveness – Convincing – interest generated?
- **Appropriate costumes are okay but please no props or PowerPoint presentations. The focus should be on the child’s speech.**

Who can compete at the district level?

Each campus is to have their individual competition and send the top two (2) in each division to the district competition.

Divisions:

Kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade

3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade

7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade

Please email the names of your campus representatives (not more than 2 in each division to District Office, Attention: Karen Coleman by January 29, 2026. Please include with your entry form: