2026 – 2027

Ogilvie High School



Speech Team Handbook

Head Coach: Emily Carlson
Assistant Coach: Sara Erickson

Ogilvie High School Varsity Speech Team

***Coaches**:*

- Miss Emily Carlson (Head Coach) ecarlson@ogilvie.k12.mn.us (765) 491-1718
- Mrs. Sara Erickson (Assistant Coach) serickson@ogilvie.k12.mn.us
- Ms. Kelsey Kehoe (Consultant)
- Mrs. Joan Erickson (Consultant)

Where to get information…

All announcements, tournament information, bus times, and team notices will be posted on lockers WEEKLY starting in December. Check the **Google Classroom** for a digital copy of these notes and other announcements. Students should check their school emails daily for current updates. There will always be extra copies of the weekly notes in Room 212. Visit the Speech facebook page at facebook.com/ogilviespeech or the website at http://sites.google.com/ogilvie.k12.mn.us/speech. MSHSL Speech: https://www.mshsl.org/sports-and-activities/speech

How do I Practice?

Speech Team Members are required to participate in the following.

1. Once a week practice with a coach. **For musical, wrestling, and basketball people: There is always the option of recording your piece for practice points!!**
2. Once a week practice for a teammate. This can happen on the *same day* as practice with a coach!
3. Team practice on designated days

Individual Practices will be 20-30 minutes in length and will be a one-on-one (duos count as one) practice with a coach. Typically coaches will listen to the speech, then give suggestions and work on the delivery of the piece.

While you are waiting for your time with a coach, you can do a few different things. You can work on homework (there may be someone available to help you if you need it), practice your piece (locker talking or practicing for a teammate), help with tasks (ask a captain or manager if they need help with something), or sit quietly in a corner and don't disrupt anyone else (ask Bristol, Jaxson, or Cooper how this is mastered)!

Eligibility…

As a Minnesota State High School League Activity, the speech team requires that you read the handbook, abide by the rules governing MSHSL competitors, and remain academically eligible as set forth by Ogilvie's Activities policy. You must also return the form on the back of this handbook signed by both yourself and your parent or legal guardian.

What is this going to cost me?

The current activity fee for the speech team is $50.00 for 6-8 grades and $60.00 for 9-12 grades. This must be paid to the activities office before you can compete at a meet.

How do I find a piece/category?

First year members will be guided by the coaches. Second, third, and fourth year members need to find their own material once their category is established. Coaches will not write pieces for you!

What does one wear to a speech meet?
Speech meets are considered business-style "dress-up" events. This means that your appearance should be clean and tasteful at all events. "Dress-up" clothing avoids denim, but would include, for guys: suit and tie, or dress pants, button-down shirt and tie; for girls: suits, dress pants and blouse, skirt and blouse, dresses, etc. Please be mindful of how your clothing sits on your body and how your movement can affect your clothing so that you remain professional-looking. Hats are not allowed for anyone when competing. When you are competing in a round, you are also being judged on the visual performance which should be positively accented by your attire.

How does one act at a speech meet?
You are an ambassador of Ogilvie High School. Everything you say and do at the meets reflects upon the school. Please act in a way that shows dignity, courtesy, and civility.

In rounds, you should be polite and attentive to the other speakers. You should not leave the round before it is over except in case of emergency. There should be no talking in between speakers; do not be a follower! No cell phone use or other distractions during the round.

Invitational Meets
The schedule is in this handbook twice. There is a schedule attached to the permission form, and there is a schedule listed in the practice calendar. Meets are subject to change, and changes will be announced and posted on **Google Classroom**.

1. All Invitationals in January-April are open to many High Schools, so tournament sizes will vary from 5-30 schools and 100-800 competitors.
2. All Invitationals include competition in all 13 MSHSL events.
3. Students are ranked by a single judge against the other members of their round.
4. Students will be judged by people with a variety of experience at Invitationals. You will receive critiques at the end of the meet.
5. Students must ride the bus to and from the event in order to compete. Alternate transportation plans require permission from parents beforehand in writing.
6. Our team has three slots for each category. If we have too many students who are interested in a category, decisions will be made by the coaching staff based on experience, overall performance, and/or coach's decision. Due to these roster restrictions, it may be necessary for students to compete in categories that may not be their first choice.
7. Registration to invitationals occurs at least one week, and usually two weeks, in advance. Once you have been registered for an invitational, you will be responsible for showing up. Drops can usually be done with no consequences up to 4 days before a meet. **Register for a meet through the appropriate Google Form; communication with a coach is also appreciated. Students must double-check to make sure they are appropriately signed up for that week's meets. The following are the consequences for not showing up ("No Call, No Show") to a meet you are registered to attend:**
    a. **First offense: A subtraction of 15 lettering points.**
    b. **Second offense: Not eligible to letter.**
    c. **Third offense: Reimburse registration and proportionate judge fees**

    Notes from Coach will always have a list of who is registered to attend the upcoming meet.
8. If participating in online meets, students must also attend at least two in-person invitationals, GRC, and Sections.

What Do You Mean I get to Compete? What is a Category? Aren't I just giving a Speech?
There are actually 13 events to compete in. The categories are as follows:

1. Creative Expression (CrX)
2. Discussion (DIS or Disco)
3. Duo Interpretation (Duo)
4. Extemporaneous Reading (ER)
5. Extemporaneous Speaking (ES)
6. Great Speeches (GS) -- *Final Year!*
7. Humorous Interpretation (HI)
8. Informative Speaking (INF or Info)
9. Original Oratory (OO)
10. Serious Drama Interpretation (DI)
11. Serious Poetry Interpretation (POE)
12. Serious Prose Interpretation (PRO)
13. Storytelling (STY)

Students will start the season in a category best suited to their style and presentation, abilities, and desire. You might receive guidance from the coaches as to an appropriate category.

Some Invitationals allow for contestants to enter in more than one event. Double-entering will only be allowed at the coach's discretion.

How do I Letter?

Letters will be earned on the following criteria.

Practicing

1 point each - Individual Practice w/coach
1 point each - Leadership - concessions, helping coaches, tutoring, coaching newer competitors, volunteering, etc.
4 points each – Judging JH Meets

Invitationals/Conference

4 points for active participation
Additional points can be earned for placing at a meet.

10 points for 1st
8 points for 2nd
6 points for 3rd
4 points for 4th
2 points for 5th or any other finish in finals.
1 point for Honorable Mention

Sub-Sections/Sections/State

Points can be earned at these meets:

Placing at Sub-Sections - 10 points
Placing at Sections - 15 points
Placing at State - 30 points

A student must earn 75 points in order to be eligible to letter. Letters may also be awarded at the discretion of the coaches.

What other Awards am I eligible for?

Team Captain

Captains are appointed by the coaches at the Awards Night in May. We hold high expectations of our captains. Captains are the coaches' sounding board and the voice of the team. They help make important decisions about the team's future. They run the activity account, take attendance, help run practice when needed, assist with odd jobs the coaches give them year-round, attend 1-3+ hour meetings year-round to plan our program, etc. There are also some perks. Captains will be the ones who pick up the team trophy at Invitationals, pick where we eat after meets, and share custody of Germ. The best way to learn about the responsibilities of captains is to ask them about what they do.

Awards Night

There will be other students recognized at Awards Night. Some of the awards will be voted on by the team members, other awards will be chosen by the coaches and/or captains.

Category Explanations

CREATIVE EXPRESSION

Description:

Creative Expression is the performance of material written by the contestant. The mood may be serious, humorous, or both. The objective is to encourage creativity through a variety of genre and performance styles. The total performance should reflect a unity of style, tone and theme.

Rules for writing:

1. No more than 20% may be material from other sources.
2. It is expected that all materials quoted, paraphrased, or summarized from other sources must be documented orally and in the written text.
3. An introductory statement, included within the ten (10) minute time limit, must precede the presentation.
    a. This introduction may, at the student's discretion, include a "teaser."

Rules for performing:

1. The contestant may use pantomime, storytelling, interpretive reading, impersonation, or any combination of these performance styles.
2. Properties, costumes, instrumental music, and stage makeup are NOT allowed.
3. An exception would be the allowable one time only use of two phrases of music from the actual published literature being quoted, or the student's own writing.
4. The use of a script is optional, provided it is not used as a prop.
5. THE TIME LIMIT IS TEN (10) MINUTES, INCLUDING THE INTRODUCTION.
    a. IF THE SPEAKER HAS BEEN WARNED THAT TIME HAS EXPIRED, THE SPEAKER MAY ONLY FINISH THE SENTENCE ALREADY BEGUN.

DISCUSSION

Description:
Problem-solving Discussion is an effort on the part of a small group to reach a solution to a problem through informal interchange of facts, inferences, and judgments. This method of discussion seeks consensus rather than majority rule. The focus of this event should be the encouragement of cooperation and critical thinking to arrive at the collective goal of better understanding and problem solving.

Rules – Topic Selection

1. The topic(s) for Discussion shall be approved each year by the Board of Directors.
2. The MSHSL Associate Director working with the Discussion Facilitator, shall provide a study outline and bibliography of the main topic(s) and related sub-topics.
3. Tasks for MSHSL-sponsored contests will be furnished by the League (as are cuttings and questions for the various draw categories) and will not mandate any specific agenda.
    a. (Invitational festival managers should create tasks for their festivals.)

Rules – Group

1. The Discussion group shall be composed of not more than eight contestants.
2. Additional sections may be scheduled if the number of contestants exceeds eight.
3. The discussion will be task-oriented where participants act as members of a group whose goal is most frequently an agreed-upon statement of policy, rules, lists, etc., which may also include rationale.
4. The discussants should control their own process of inquiry.
5. Emerging leadership from within the group should develop.
6. Management of time for that round should remain the responsibility of the discussants themselves.
7. THE DISCUSSION PERIOD SHALL NOT EXCEED ONE HOUR (60 MINUTES).

Rules – What you're judged on

1. The basis for judging Discussion should place emphasis on the task and social dimensions of group interaction.
    a. Did the discussant's contributions add to the group effort?
    b. Did the discussant possess sufficient information, and was the information of high quality?
    c. Did the discussant's contributions reflect an understanding of major issues?
    d. Did the discussant's behavior reflect a respect for the dignity and worth of other participants?
    e. Did the discussant exhibit active listening skills?
2. Judges are not to participate.
3. At no time should a Judge become a part of the discussion.
4. Judges should not suggest an agenda, give an opinion, or give oral critiques.

DUO INTERPRETATION

Description:
Duo interpretation features two students interpreting together one or more selections from a single published source, an anthology of prose, poetry, and/or dramatic literature serious and/or humorous, with literary merit and appropriate to the readers (Published means the source has a ISBN, a Library of Congress Number, or other citable source). (Clarification: the student's script may be limited to a single author or genre, but may include material from more than one genre and/or author, as long as the material comes from that single, published source.) Each student may portray one or more characters.

Rules – Performance

1. Costumes, props, make-up, special lights, scenery, stools or chairs, music stands, or lecterns may not be used.
2. An introduction must be presented at the beginning of the interpretation, and this introduction, along with any transitional remarks necessary for the selection, may be delivered by either or both of the participants.
3. A "teaser" may be used provided that it comes from one of the selections being used.
4. There shall be no body contact between speakers.
5. Facial expressions and gestures may be used as appropriate to the piece.
6. Eye contact is permitted with audience members during narration.
7. Focal points may be employed during dialogue.
8. Interpreters may refer to each other and make eye contact with each other during the introduction and/or for transitions.
9. The use of gestures is optional.
10. A copy of the script must be filed with the Contest Manager before each contest.
11. Updated copies of the script must be submitted at Subsection, Section, and State levels.
12. Should an original member of a Duo be unable to compete, a substitute may be named to perform in his/her place.
13. The use of a script is optional, provided it is not used as a prop.
14. THE MAXIMUM TIME LIMIT IS TEN (10) MINUTES, INCLUDING A REQUIRED INTRODUCTION AND NECESSARY TRANSITIONS.

EXTEMPORANEOUS READING

Description:
Participation in Extemporaneous Reading will train a student to introduce and read excerpts from prose or poetry for the purpose of appreciation or enjoyment. Specific sources for reading will be announced in the fall of each year. The League Office will identify specific poems and stories for contests.

Rules – Selection:

1. The student will declare, prior to each draw, his/her choice of genre (Prose / Poetry).
2. The order of speaking shall be determined by lot.
3. Thirty (30) minutes before the contest begins, the first reader shall draw three cuttings. The reader shall immediately choose one of them, and return the other two which will then be placed with the other cuttings remaining to be drawn.
4. The cuttings chosen shall be recorded by the event manager.
5. Each of the succeeding readers shall, at intervals of eight (8) minutes, in turn, follow the same procedure.
6. In finals at ALL levels of competition, the student may not perform a cutting that s/he has performed in a preliminary round at that level of competition.
7. In the event that the student draws a previously performed cutting, s/he may draw a substitute cutting.
8. After the contestant has drawn a cutting, the student shall not confer, or have any communication, with a coach or others until the reading has been delivered. Each reader shall present the cutting draw slip to the Room Manager or Judge(s) in the round.
9. While the inadvertent skipping or substitution of a single word or phrase in an Extemporaneous reading may occasionally and understandably occur, students must be careful that entire sentences or more are not skipped during the presentation. Contestants must not read more of the selection than is included in the drawn cutting.
10. For poetry, students must read selections in the order listed on the draw slip.
11. For prose, students must start at the beginning of the prescribed cutting and read as much of the complete cutting as time permits; however, students will be allowed to stop reading at any point within the last minute.
12. If the time has expired, the student shall complete only the sentence already begun.
13. Allowable cutting would include the elimination of "he said" and "she said" once a character has been established, or the omission of language objectionable to the contestant.

Rules – Performance:

1. The student should be judged on the ability to introduce the excerpt with a few appropriate extemporaneous remarks, and to read the selection with effective vocal and bodily expression.
2. The student may use a "teaser" as a part of the introduction.
    a. However, the "teaser" must be a part of the actual drawn section of the story or poem.
    b. If the "teaser" appears within the cutting, it may not be eliminated within the reading presented.
3. The use of gestures is optional.
4. THE ENTIRE DELIVERY TIME, INCLUDING THE REQUIRED INTRODUCTION, SHALL NOT EXCEED SEVEN (7) MINUTES.

EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING

Description:
The Extemporaneous Speech should be an original synthesis of current fact and opinion on a topic drawn by the contestant. The goal of this activity is the encouragement of extensive reading, understanding of many subjects, and the development of reasoned, supportable positions on issues.

Rules – Selection:

1. The MSHSL will recommend, each fall, subject areas chosen from these publications.
2. The MSHSL will provide questions in both U.S. and International areas for each level of MSHSL competition.
3. Speakers may choose from either U.S. or International topics.
4. The subjects for this event shall be taken from the following magazines and newspapers, with an attempt to balance social, economic, and political issues:
    a. Time
    b. Newsweek
    c. U.S. Weekly News
    d. St. Paul Pioneer Press
    e. Minneapolis Star Tribune
5. The order of speaking shall be determined by lot.
6. Thirty (30) minutes before the contest begins, the first speaker shall draw three questions.
7. The speaker shall immediately choose one of them and return the other two, which shall then be put with the other questions remaining to be drawn.
8. The questions chosen shall be recorded by the Event Manager.
9. Each of the succeeding speakers shall, at intervals of eight (8) minutes, in turn, follow the same procedure.
10. In the event that the student draws a previously performed question, s/he may draw a substitute question.
11. In finals at ALL levels of competition, a student may not repeat a question previously chosen at that level of competition.
12. During the thirty (30) minutes of preparation of the speech students may consult published books, magazines, newspapers and journals and Internet articles downloaded from established news sources, provided:
    a. They are originals or photocopies of whole pages.
    b. Provided those originals or photocopies are uncut.
    c. There is no written material on that original or copy other than highlighting and citation information (such as publication title and date).
    d. Topical index may be present.
    e. No other material shall be allowed in the extemp prep room other than stated above. Extemporaneous speeches, handbooks, briefs and outlines shall be barred from the extemp prep room.
    f. Outlines and notes created in the prep room during preparation time at the tournament are allowed.
    g. Students are not permitted the use of computers to do research during the preparation period but may use computers to retrieve already-stored information.
13. After the contestant has drawn a question, the student shall not confer, or have any communication, in any way with a coach or others until the speech has been delivered.
14. A contestant may use one side of one 3" x 5" note card during the delivery of the speech.
15. Each speaker shall present the question drawn to the Room Manager or Judge(s) of the round.

16. Upon completion of the speech, each speaker shall immediately present any notes used to the Room Manager or Judge(s), who will present the same to the Contest Manager.
17. The Judge(s) shall not be permitted to ask questions of the speakers.
18. Unless otherwise determined by the Region Committee, the questions are to be furnished by the League Office for:
    a. Subsection Contests – The questions, U.S. and International, (one set per round per contest section) will be furnished to the Contest Manager prior to said contest.
    b. Section Contests – The questions, U.S. and International, (one set per round per contest section) will be furnished to the Contest Manager to said contest.

Rules – Performance:

1. Questions shall require persuasive rather than informative speeches.
2. Students are judged on
    a. The quality of information presented, together with their use of that information to support the thesis.
    b. Strict adherence to the question drawn.
    c. Well-chosen information relative to the question drawn.
    d. Organization of the material.
    e. Effective delivery.
3. THE SPEECH SHALL BE EXTEMPORANEOUS AND SHALL NOT EXCEED SEVEN (7) MINUTES IN LENGTH. SPEAKERS WARNED THAT TIME HAS EXPIRED MAY CONCLUDE WITH ONE FINAL SENTENCE.

GREAT SPEECHES

Description:
Great Speeches is an event in which the contestant speaks about either a single speech OR an anthology of speeches (not to exceed three) related by common author, theme, or other element. Each speech (public address) must have been actually delivered before the author's intended original audience.

Rules – Writing:

1. The contestant's analysis should convey the delight, edification, and challenge of contemporary or historical public address. Information about each author/speaker, subject, original audience, and occasion must be included in an introduction.
2. During the presentation, the contestant must also justify the selection for presentation to the contestant's immediate audience.
3. The justification need not be an explicit statement, but may include such subjects as the historical or potential importance, language style, rhetorical technique and audience appeal.
4. The student may, but is not required to, use a rhetorical model.
5. Comments about textual accuracy and ghostwriting style may be included where appropriate.
6. All materials quoted, paraphrased, or summarized from other sources must be documented both orally and in the written text.
7. A minimum of 25% of the presentation must be the contestant's own material.
    a. How portions of the original speech text are incorporated into the participant's presentation shall be at the discretion of the participant.
8. Statements, analysis and exposition may be either interspersed throughout the presentation or contained in only one or a few portions of the presentation.
9. For purposes of documentation, the student is required to provide a citation indicating the source of the selected speech within the written **and** oral text of the student's speech.
    a. The selected speech must have been published with an ISBN or ISSN or an online resource.
    b. Recorded speeches may be used only if they have also been published in print or online.
    c. An ISBN/ISSN or the citation of the online resource should be provided at sub-section, section, and state contests. (An ISSN covers periodical and serials.)
    d. If the speech is selected from an online source, student and coach are strongly encouraged to check the reliability of the online source.
10. A copy of the script must be filed with the Contest Manager before each contest.
11. Updated copies of the script must be submitted at Subsection, Section, and State levels.
12. At the State Contest, the student must submit a copy of the script to the Room Manager in the first round.

Rules – Performance:

1. The general effectiveness of the student's interaction with the audience to share the greatness of the speech.
2. The participant's judgment in choosing and editing the material, sensitivity to author's ideas and purpose, and, especially, the speaker's analysis of historical potential, and/or rhetorical import of the speech.
3. Since this is not a prose interpretation event, posturing, impersonation, and imitation are to be avoided.
4. The use of a script is optional, provided it is not used as a prop.
5. THE MAXIMUM TIME OF THE PRESENTATION SHALL NOT EXCEED TEN (10) MINUTES.

HUMOROUS INTERPRETATION

Description:
Humorous Interpretation uses any published selection, either prose, poetry, or dramatic literature, with literary merit and appropriate to the reader (Published means the speech has an ISBN or Library of Congress #, or other citation). The cutting should amuse, give enjoyment, or create laughter.

Rules – Selection:

1. The selection shall not have been taken from record or tape.
2. A copy of the script must be filed with the Contest Manager before each contest.
3. Updated copies of the script must be submitted at Subsection, Section, and State levels.

Rules – Performance:

1. The student should be judged on ability to get and give meaning through the use of vocal and bodily expression.
2. Poise, vocal and physical delivery, and appropriateness of the selection to the interpreter should be considered.
3. The use of gestures is optional.
4. The use of a script is optional, provided it is not used as a prop.
5. THE MAXIMUM TIME OF PRESENTATION, INCLUDING THE REQUIRED INTRODUCTION, IS TEN (10) MINUTES.

INFORMATIVE SPEAKING

Description:
Informative Speaking is an event in which the student presents an original informative composition. The purpose of Informative Speaking is to present information which the audience may or may not possess and which the student believes important for the audience.

Rules – Writing:

1. Quality of thought, research, and composition, as well as delivery, will be considered
2. No more than 10% shall be direct quotation.
3. All materials quoted, paraphrased, or summarized from other sources (including visuals) must be documented both orally and in the written text.
4. The use of visual aids is optional.
    a. Visual aids may be two-dimensional and/or three-dimensional but may not violate law (weapons, drugs, for example).
    b. The use of animals or any additional people as visual aids is not allowed during the speech.
    c. Maximum set-up time is 2 minutes.
    d. When set-up is completed or all of the set up time has been used, timing the speaking begins.
    e. Expedient take-down is expected.
    f. The host school is responsible for communicating any limitations to visual aids dictated by their school policies.
    g. The host school is not responsible for providing any facilities, equipment, or assistance in a contestant's use of visual aid.
    h. Electronic media and equipment may be used.
5. A copy of the script must be filed with the Contest Manager before each contest.
6. Updated copies of the script must be submitted at Subsection, Section, and State levels.
7. On-the-spot audience surveys adapted to the speech as given, audience handouts, or active audience involvement are not permitted.
    a. The rule does not allow for any type of audience participation.
8. The speech is to be a self-contained presentation—ten (10) minutes in length—presented and controlled by the student.

Rules – Performance:

1. Appropriate choice of subject and information for the audience.
2. Clear organization.
3. Direct and communicative delivery manner.
4. Predominantly serious informative purpose (which may include the use of humor).
5. Avoidance of predominantly persuasive subjects and techniques.
    a. Every Informative Speech has some elements of persuasion in it.
    b. The use of a script is optional, provided it is not used as a prop.
    c. THE MAXIMUM TIME OF PRESENTATION SHALL NOT EXCEED TEN (10) MINUTES.

ORIGINAL ORATORY

Description:
Original Oratory is an event in which the contestant presents his/her own PERSUASIVE composition.

Rules – Writing:

1. The orator should not be expected to solve any of the great problems of the day, but must offer some insight and guidance.
2. The composition should be especially adapted to oral presentation, and the orator should employ a variety of persuasive skills and strive for eloquence in style.
3. No more than 10% shall be direct quotation
4. It is expected that all materials quoted, paraphrased, or summarized from other sources must be documented orally and in the written text.
5. No particular manner of delivery is required, nor is any particular manner of content organization.
6. A copy of the script must be filed with the Contest Manager before each contest.
7. Updated copies of the script must be submitted at Subsection, Section, and State levels.

Rules – Presentation:

1. Judges will consider the high quality of thought and composition, as well as, communicative delivery
2. The contestant should be expected to speak intelligently and with a degree of originality about the message chosen.
3. The rule does not allow for any type of audience participation.
4. The use of a script is optional, provided it is not used as a prop.
5. THE MAXIMUM TIME OF PRESENTATION SHALL NOT EXCEED TEN (10) MINUTES.

SERIOUS DRAMA

Description:
Serious Drama Interpretation uses any published selection of dramatic literature (plays, radio plays, television plays, or screenplays) with literary merit and appropriate to the reader. (Published means the speech has an ISBN or Library of Congress #, or other citable source). The mood of the cutting must be essentially serious.

Rules – Selection:

1. The mood of the cutting must be essentially serious.
2. Appropriateness of the selection to the interpreter and audience should be considered.
3. A copy of the script must be filed with the Contest Manager before each contest.
4. Updated copies of the script must be submitted at Subsection, Section, and State levels.

Rules – Performance:

1. The student should get and give meaning through the use of vocal and bodily expression.
2. Poise in vocal and physical delivery are expected.
3. The use of gestures is optional.
4. The use of a script is optional, provided it is not used as a prop.
5. THE MAXIMUM TIME OF PRESENTATION, INCLUDING THE REQUIRED INTRODUCTION, IS TEN (10) MINUTES.

SERIOUS POETRY INTERPRETATION

Description:
Serious Poetry Interpretation uses any published poetry selection, including lyric novels with literary merit and appropriate to the reader. (Published means the speech has an ISBN or Library of Congress #, or other citable sources). The mood is essentially serious.

Rules – Selection:

1. The mood of the cutting must be essentially serious.
2. Selections for poetry may be one poem or several clearly identified poems
    a. The titles and authors of each poem must be stated either in the introduction or throughout the performance.
3. Appropriateness of the selection to the interpreter and audience should be considered.
4. A copy of the script must be filed with the Contest Manager before each contest.
5. Updated copies of the script must be submitted at Subsection, Section, and State levels.

Rules – Performance:

1. The student should get and give meaning through the use of vocal and bodily expression.
2. Poise in vocal and physical delivery are expected.
3. The use of gestures is optional.
4. The use of a script is optional, provided it is not used as a prop.
5. THE MAXIMUM TIME OF PRESENTATION, INCLUDING THE REQUIRED INTRODUCTION, IS TEN (10) MINUTES.

SERIOUS PROSE INTERPRETATION

Description:
Serious Prose Interpretation uses any published selection of prose, fiction or non-fiction, excluding lyric novels (Published means the speech has an ISBN or Library of Congress #, or other citable source). The mood must be essentially serious.

Rules – Selection:

1. The mood of the cutting must be essentially serious.
2. Any selection, with literary merit and appropriate to the reader, that is not poetry, a play or part of a play, or a delivered speech, will be considered prose.
3. Appropriateness of the selection to the interpreter and audience should be considered.
4. A copy of the script must be filed with the Contest Manager before each contest.
5. Updated copies of the script must be submitted at Subsection, Section, and State levels.

Rules – Performance:

1. The student should get and give meaning through the use of vocal and bodily expression.
2. Poise in vocal and physical delivery are expected.
3. The use of gestures is optional.
4. The use of a script is optional, provided it is not used as a prop.
5. THE MAXIMUM TIME OF PRESENTATION, INCLUDING THE REQUIRED INTRODUCTION, IS TEN (10) MINUTES.

STORYTELLING

Description:
Participation in storytelling should train students to recreate a familiar story extemporaneously.

Rules – Selection:

1. A selected list of fifteen (15) stories will be announced in the fall of each year.
2. The order of presentation shall be determined by lot before the contest begins.
3. Thirty (30) minutes before the contest begins, the first storyteller shall draw three titles. The storyteller shall immediately choose one of them and return the other two, which will then be placed with the other stories remaining to be drawn.
4. The title chosen shall be recorded by the Event Manager.
5. Each of the succeeding performers shall, at intervals of eight (8) minutes, in turn, follow the same procedure.
6. In all rounds, including finals, in ALL levels of competition, a student may NOT repeat a story previously performed in preliminary round at that level of competition.
7. In the event that the student draws a previously performed story, s/he may draw a substitute story.
8. After the contestant has drawn a title, the student shall not confer, or communicate, in any way with a coach or others until the presentation has been delivered.
9. Each storyteller shall present the storytelling draw slip to the Room Manager or Judge(s) in the round.
10. No books, notes or properties shall be taken to the platform.
11. Introductory comments (which may be preceded by a teaser) must precede the telling of the story.
12. The contestant must not add subplots or revisions to the story's actual events that change the original plot or violate the story's style, intent, and mood.
    a. A subplot is a series of connected actions/events within a work that function separately from the main plot.
13. Cutting of a lengthy story is allowable to meet time constraints.
14. The use of a concluding statement that ties back to the introduction is not required.
15. As requested by the Speech Advisory Committee, there will be no Readers in Storytelling.
16. The Tournament Committee asks that Judges have read the stories, if they have indicated a willingness to judge this event at all levels of competition.

Rules – Performance:

1. The performer must show their ability to recreate the story in his/her own words, with emphasis on a direct conversational style and spontaneous bodily action.
2. The contestant must maintain the story's mood and format and must deliver the story extemporaneously.
3. TIME LIMIT, INCLUDING REQUIRED INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS, IS SEVEN (7) MINUTES.
    a. If the storyteller is warned that time has expired, the storyteller may conclude with one final statement.

SPEECH PERMISSION FORM 2026-2027

Student Name:_____

(Please Print Legibly)

I have read the speech handbook and I understand the commitment, procedures, and obligations necessary to be a part of the Ogilvie High School Speech Team.

Also, please check one of the following:

- ☐ YES, my student has permission to go to Casey's with the Speech group after school. They should go with at least one other Speechie and get a coach's permission before leaving.
- ☐ NO, my student does not have permission to go to Casey's with the Speech group after school.



_____ _____

Student Signature Date

_____ _____

Parent/Guardian Signature Date

Please indicate any conflicts you are aware of on the schedule and hand back to the coaches. **This is not your meet registration;** you will still need to communicate with the coaches about your availability for each meet. However, if there are certain dates that you already know about (like a vacation), this will help us plan.

This Schedule and the Locations are subject to change.

Any Possible Scheduling Conflicts:

_____

_____

For JH competitors (grades 6-8) and judges, please mark your availability as of the current date.

Can	Cannot	Date	Location
		JH - Wednesday, January 6th	Mock Meet - Room 212 until 5:30pm
		JH - Thursday, January 7th	@ Foley
		JH - Thursday, January 14th	@ Ogilvie
		JH - Thursday, January 21st	@ Mille Lacs
		JH - Thursday, January 28th	@ Hinckley-Finlayson
		JH - Thursday, February 4th	**@ Pine City (Two-Rivers Tournament)**

Varsity *competitors, please sign up using the Google Forms. Check your email daily, please.*

Conflicts with athletics and other fine arts activities will be resolved on an individual basis according to school district policies and coaches.

As Part of a Team, it is expected that you show responsibility and **communicate**. Excessive absences may result in you not being allowed to participate. In the event your schedule changes, and there is a meet you need to change your availability for, you need to notify a coach **at least 4 days ahead of time**, so you can be registered or dropped without penalty.

This slip needs to be returned to **Miss Carlson** before you can practice starting November 16 and before you can compete in meets.