

Millburn High School
Speech and Debate Team

Official Handbook
2021-2022

www.millburnspeechanddebate.org

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Save the dates:

First team meeting for new students: Wednesday, September 22nd at 6:30pm in the MHS cafeteria.

First full team meeting for new and returning students: Wednesday, September 29th at 6:30pm on Zoom.

MANDATORY Parent Judge Training Options* (7:00-8:00pm on Zoom) - Tuesday, November 9, Thursday, November 18, Tuesday, December 7, Tuesday, January 11, Thursday, February 3, Tuesday, February 15, and Tuesday, March 1.

If checking this document for incoming 9th graders for the 2022-2023 school year, please check back in August for meeting dates. These dates are only for the 2021-2022 school year!

*Both new and returning parents must attend at least one judge training before judging at a tournament. Parents will not be allowed to judge unless they have attended a judge training, and therefore will need to pay the \$125 judge fee per three tournaments until they are eligible to judge and cover their child's judging requirement. At the end of the year, students will pay a partial judging fee if they are one or two tournaments from the three tournament threshold.

I. Team Requirements

The Millburn Speech and Debate team prides itself on its consistently high level of performance. This success requires a serious commitment from all competitors, including weekly meetings, numerous all-day Saturday tournaments, and further research and practice on their own. **Please consider this in making your decision on whether to become part of the team.**

A. School and District Rules

1. Students are expected to know and follow all rules included in the Millburn High School policy handbook. All school/district rules must be followed at practice and tournaments. **Infraction of these policies may also result in school disciplinary action, suspension and possible expulsion from the team.**
2. The Speech and Debate team, in accordance with district policy, has a zero tolerance policy toward harassment, intimidation, or bullying of any kind. Team members found to have engaged in such activities at team meetings, tournaments, or any other team related activities will be expelled from the team. This includes online activity as well as in person interactions.
3. If a student feels as though they have been harassed, intimidated, or bullied by another team member, the student and parents must contact the school administration in order to lodge a formal complaint and go through the appropriate channels within the school.

B. Attendance

1. Practice

- a) Regular attendance at Wednesday's meetings is required. **There is a mandatory check-in from 6:00-6:30pm for attendance check-in with the Team Secretary. They will also disperse any additional messages or direct students to a particular coach if necessary. These meetings are held every Wednesday evening, from 6:00-8:30 at Millburn High School.**
- b) Absences
 - (1) Students may only be excused from a small portion of these practices due to previously approved activities. **If this will lead to more than three practices being missed in total, approval must be in written form and signed by each coach and faculty sponsor.** This must be submitted at least two weeks prior to the first scheduled absence.
 - (2) **Students are allowed no more than three absences from regular Wednesday practices during the year.** When possible, students should inform their event captain of these absences in advance. Further absences will have the following consequences. Speech students will have the opportunity to make up a missed practice over skype at the discretion of the speech coach.
 - 1st additional absence: Vocal warning and discussion on attendance with Jordy and faculty advisor.
 - 2nd additional absence: Two tournament suspension.
 - 3rd additional absence: Dismissal from the team.
- c) Late Arrivals
 - (1) Meetings begin punctually at 6:30pm. It is imperative that students arrive on time. Students should sign in as instructed when they arrive between 6:00-6:30pm with the Team Secretary.
 - (2) Office Hours: for students that need to turn in registration forms, late add fees, drop fees, tournament payments, or for any general logistical inquiries, students must stop by Senora Vazquez's office where a coach will be available to answer questions and accept forms and payment. **Coaches WILL NOT accept anything during the practice time of 6.30-8.30pm OR after practice.**
- d) **Each team member must attend a minimum of five tournaments each season, and at least two by the end of December.**
- e) Students will receive a schedule for the season, and are expected to coordinate their schedules to attend as many tournaments as possible. It is highly recommended to attend more than the minimum of five tournaments, as tournament attendance correlates to competitive growth and success.
- f) In order to be registered at designated national circuit tournaments, students must compete at specific locals as labeled on the team calendar available on the Millburn Speech and Debate website.
- g) **In order to compete in speech, members must perform their pieces to a coach on or before the deadline for registering for the tournament. Failure to do so will result in being removed from the tournament and the resulting \$15 drop fee.**
- h) **In order to compete in debate, members must show their cases to the head debate coach on or before the deadline for registering for the tournament. Failure to do so will result in being removed from the tournament and the resulting \$15 drop fee.**

C. Practice Policies

1. Students are expected to be prepared for Wednesday night meetings per the captains'/coach's instruction.
2. Students should bring all materials needed to conduct an effective practice including laptops, notebooks, pens, pencils, paper, files, or other necessary research or supplies.
3. **Students should not engage in outside activities during practice. This includes homework.** Students need to manage their time so that homework can be completed outside of designated practice times.

4. Students should maintain a respectful attitude towards captains, coaches and one another at all times.
 5. If students are not engaged in activities pertaining to practice, this will result in:
 - a) (1st) a warning
 - b) (2nd) Dismissal from practice, and an unexcused absence.
- D. Dues
1. Each team member must pay the team dues in the amount of \$275 no later than Wednesday, October 6th, 2021 at 6:30pm.
 - a) Dues paid after Oct 27th will be assessed a \$25 late fee. That would mean that the team dues are \$300 if paid after October 27, 2021. There are no exceptions to this.
 - b) If a student's dues are not paid by October 27, 2021 s/he will be dismissed from the team.
 2. Checks for all dues can be made out to "MHSFB" (Millburn High School Forensics Boosters).
 3. The team dues are used to pay for coaching staff, team resources, tournaments expenses, and other team needs.
- E. Judging
1. Each student must provide a judge for every three tournaments s/he attends. **To be clear, if your student has attended three tournaments, they need to have either provided a judge at one of those three tournaments or pay the \$125.**
 2. **If a student wants to attend a fourth tournament, but has not provided a judge, s/he will be required to pay a judging fee in the amount of \$125 for a hired judge before they can be registered or the tournament.**
 3. **New this year: if students have attended 1 or 2 tournaments, or are in between the 3-6 or 6-9th tournament threshold, at the end of the year, they will have to pay a partial judging fee based on if they were one tournament away (\$84) or two tournaments away (\$42) from hitting the next judging threshold of every three tournaments. This is to ensure we can pay our hired judges.**
 4. Parents or other personnel who plan to judge should attend judge training sessions held each year by the NJSDL or Millburn's own judge trainings. Review the season schedule for dates. Additional judging resources can be found at speechanddebate.org and njsdl.org
 5. Judges for non-team sponsored tournaments are arranged based on each tournament's needs. The fees for those judges will be paid by the students competing in the tournament.
 6. As is the case from previous seasons, but to be clear in our handbook, national tournaments that are sponsored do count as tournaments attended that students will need to provide judging for.
 7. **All parents are required to attend a judge training before judging at a tournament. THIS ALSO APPLIES TO RETURNING PARENTS. We will offer several judge trainings throughout the season that parents are strongly encouraged to attend. There will be absolutely no exceptions to this rule.**

II. Tournaments

- A. Attendance-please see section I part B for attendance regulations.
- B. Conduct
 1. Any misconduct at any tournament (regardless of distance or length of the tournament) may result in the parent(s) being required to pick the student up from the tournament early. Depending on the severity of the offense, this could further result in suspension from the Speech and Debate team, as well as disciplinary action by Millburn High School. **If an infraction takes place at a national tournament, the student will be barred from competing at national tournaments for the remainder of the season. This includes non-sponsored tournaments.**
 2. **Students are to remain at the tournament site for the entire duration of the tournament unless given rare permission by a member of the coaching staff.**
- C. Arrival and Departure
 1. Students are expected to be at school, and on the bus by the designated leave time. (In the case of an online tournament, students are expected to check in with the chaperone at a designated time) **If a student is late for departure and misses the bus, s/he must be driven by her/his parent to**

the tournament site. Consequences for unexcused late arrivals and/or early departures for tournaments include:

- a) **1st-Warning**
 - b) **2nd-One tournament suspension**
 - c) **3rd-Meeting with coaching staff, two tournament suspension, and potential dismissal from the team.**
2. Students may only leave a tournament early if written permission has been given by the coaching staff at least 24 hours in advance. Permission may be obtained by emailing: millburnspeechanddebate@gmail.com. **Each student will not be allowed more than two early dismissals from tournaments.**
 3. When a student signs up for a tournament, they are expected to commit the day to this activity. If a student has another commitment planned for the day of the tournament, they should not register to compete.
 4. **If a parent is judging at a tournament, s/he may transport his or her child to and from the tournament site. If a parent plans to do this, s/he must notify the coaching staff 24 hours in advance by emailing millburnspeechanddebate@gmail.com. If a parent/student does not let the coaches know that they are being transported to the tournament by their parent at least 24 hours in advance of the tournament, the student will be fined a \$10 nuisance fee for keeping their teammates and coaches waiting.**

D. No Show

1. **If a student misses the bus to a tournament and does not arrange transportation to the tournament site, or notifies the coaching staff of a conflict less than 24 hours in advance of the tournament, s/he will be assessed a drop fee of at least \$20, as well as the full amount charged by the tournament host. This must be paid in full before a student can register for additional tournaments.**
2. Consequences for neglecting to show up at tournaments include:
 - a) 1st-Fee assessed and one tournament suspension
 - b) 2nd-Fee assessed and two tournament suspension
 - c) 3rd-Fee assessed and meeting with coaching staff, which may result in the student's dismissal from the team.

E. Tournament Registration

1. Students should review the schedule (cross-reference SAT/ACT dates, partner schedules when applicable and other commitments) to determine which tournaments they can attend. Students must register for local tournaments no later than 10 days in advance (two Wednesdays before), and national tournaments according to the tournament registration opening date (typically months in advance).
2. Registration for local and national team-sponsored tournaments must be completed using the online forms available on the website.
3. If the tournament allows late registration, and a student requests registration later than 10 days before the start of the tournament, they will be assessed a \$10 nuisance fee.
4. Should a student need to drop from a tournament, they should notify the coaches at millburnspeechanddebate@gmail.com as early as possible. If a student drops from a tournament less than 10 days before the start of the tournament or after the tournament drop deadline, whichever is earlier, the student will be assessed a minimum drop fee of \$15. The amount of this fee may be greater, as determined by the tournament host. This must be paid in full before a student can register for additional tournaments.
5. **In the event that more team members sign up to participate at a tournament than can be accommodated, the coaches will decide who attends based on a combination of seniority, equity, captain recommendations, and overall performance at meetings and other tournaments.**

F. Local Tournaments (Please note that all local tournaments have transitioned to an online format, utilizing Zoom, NSDA Campus, and other video conferencing platforms)

1. NJSDL (New Jersey Speech and Debate League) Invitationals
 - a) These tournaments are typically held on a Saturday from 7am-7pm

- b) Local tournaments are used to qualify students to the NJ State Championship tournament in March. If a student advances to finals at an NJSDL tournament, s/he is eligible to compete in the State Championship tournament. NCFL tournaments do not count for qualification to the NJSDL State Championship.
 - c) Should the team qualify more than four students to the State Championships, coaches will determine the four students/teams who will fill the four spots permitted by the NJSDL.
 - 2. Newark CFL (Catholic Forensics League) Tournaments
 - a) These tournaments are typically held on a Saturday from 8am-6pm.
 - b) CFL tournaments are held specifically to qualify students to the CFL Grand National Tournament in May.
 - c) After six CFL tournaments throughout the season, a student's best four finishes will be cumulated to determine the top six entries in the Newark diocese. Those six entries will advance to the Grand National tournament.
 - d) Success at these tournaments does not qualify a student for the NJ State Championship tournament.
 - 3. For NJSDL and NCFL tournaments, the school will pay all registration fees and transportation costs.
- G. Travel/Overnight Tournaments (Until further notice, we will not be traveling due to health and safety concerns pertaining to Covid-19, we are keeping this section in here as a reference)
 - 1. Team Sponsored Tournaments
 - a) Each season, the team will sponsor several national tournaments, in which students are encouraged to compete. These are indicated on the season schedule each year. Permission packets for these events will be distributed in the months preceding each tournament.
 - b) **Attendance criteria for these select tournaments is based on the following:**
 - (1) **Student readiness**
 - (2) **Seniority**
 - (3) **Past tournament performance**
 - (4) **Past behavior at practices and local and national tournaments**
 - c) **All hotel, flights, and transportation reservations will be made by the school**, but will be paid for by the students. Total trip costs vary for each tournament, and will be included in the permission packets. All costs must be paid prior to the specified deadline in order to attend.
 - d) Parent chaperones are needed on each of these tournaments. If a parent is interested in attending and judging, s/he should contact the coaching staff at millburnspeechanddebate@gmail.com
 - 2. Individual Sponsored Tournaments (Non-Team Sponsored)
 - a) There are numerous national tournaments throughout the country that students may wish to attend on their own.
 - b) Students attending these tournaments should expect to supply/pay for the following:
 - (1) Adult chaperone (can be a parent)
 - (2) Qualified judge (can be a parent or alumni local to the tournament site)
 - (3) Transportation and housing for themselves and chaperone and/or judge. These will not be arranged by the school.
 - (4) A food stipend is recommended for hired judges to cover meals not provided by the tournament.
 - c) **Students wishing to compete in these tournaments must notify coaches through millburnspeechanddebate@gmail.com at least 48 hours prior to registration opening, so that they may be properly registered by the school.**
 - d) The school will pay up to three registration fees per travel tournament (whether traveling with the school or non-sponsored). Payment will be arranged once the student notifies the coaches of his/her intent to compete, and will be mailed to the tournament host when possible.

- e) Students must submit the non team sponsored tournament permission form available on the website prior to attending each tournament. This form must be signed by the student, parent, judge and chaperone prior to being registered.
- H. National Tournaments (Post Season)-Students can qualify for a number of post-season tournaments. which allows them the opportunity to face the best competition from around the country. This tournaments can mark the highest points of a student's competitive career.
 - 1. Tournament of Champions
 - a) Qualify through a bid system. Visit: <https://ci.uky.edu/toc/> for more information. This tournament is hosted annually by the University of Kentucky.
 - 2. NSDA National Tournament
 - a) Qualify by placing in the top of the NJ NSDA District through a rigorous elimination tournament in March. Students must be members of NSDA by earning at least 25 points and registering on the website: <http://www.speechanddebate.org>
 - 3. NCFL Grand Nationals
 - a) Qualify for this tournament through the Newark CFL tournaments throughout the season.

III. Events

Students on the Millburn Speech and Debate Team have the opportunity to compete in a variety of events. While most students focus on one debate event or a few speech events, it is possible for students to compete in multiple events while they establish which best fits their abilities and dedication to the activity. At a typical local tournament, students can compete in up to two different speech events, but may only compete in one debate event, and cannot compete in both a speech and a debate event. Regulations for national tournaments vary based on each tournament host. Students should always consult the tournament rules and guidelines before registering.

- A. National Speech and Debate Association (NSDA) Main Events-*These are the most common events, seen at almost all tournaments. They are also the events at the NSDA District and National tournaments. All experienced competitors should be competing in at least one of these events.*
 - 1. **Congressional Debate**-A simulation of the U.S. legislative process, students generate a series of bills and resolutions for debate in Congressional Debate. Debaters alternate delivering short speeches for and against the topic in a group setting. An elected student serves as a presiding officer to ensure debate flows smoothly. Students are assessed on their research, argumentation, and delivery skills, as well as their knowledge and use of parliamentary procedure.
 - 2. **Lincoln-Douglas Debate**-In this one-on-one format, students debate a topic provided by the National Speech & Debate Association. Topics range from individual freedom versus the collective good to economic development versus environmental protection. This values-based debate requires research to support theory and evidence based arguments. An entire debate is roughly 45 minutes and consists of constructive speeches, rebuttals, and cross-examination.
 - 3. **Policy Debate (CX)**-A two-on-two debate that focuses on a policy question for the duration of the academic year, this format tests a student's research, analytical, and delivery skills. Policy debate involves the proposal of a plan by the affirmative team to enact a policy, while the negative team offers reasons to reject that proposal. Throughout the debate, students have the opportunity to cross-examine one another. A judge or panel of judges determines the winner based on the arguments presented. Note: Millburn does not currently compete in Policy Debate as it is not commonly offered at NJSDL tournaments.
 - 4. **Public Forum Debate**-Public Forum involves opposing teams of two, debating a topic concerning a current event. Proceeding a coin toss, the winners choose which side to debate (PRO or CON) or which speaker position they prefer (1st or 2nd), and the other team receives the remaining option. Students present cases, engage in rebuttal and refutation, and also participate in a "crossfire" (similar to a cross examination) with the opportunity to question the opposing team.
 - 5. **Dramatic Interpretation**-Using a play, short story, or other published work, students perform a selection of one or more portions of a piece up to ten minutes in length. With a spotlight on character development and depth, this event focuses on the student's ability to convey emotion through the use of a dramatic text. Competitors may portray one or multiple characters. No props or costumes may be used. Performances can also include an introduction written by the student to contextualize the performance, and state the title and the author.
 - 6. **Duo Interpretation**-Two competitors team up to deliver a ten-minute performance of a published play or story. Using off-stage focus, competitors convey emotion and environment through a variety of performance techniques focusing on the relationships and interactions between the characters. No props or costumes are

used. Performances also include an introduction written by the students to contextualize the performance and state the title and the author.

7. **Extemporaneous Speaking**-Students are presented with a choice of three questions related to either international or domestic (US) current events and, in 30 minutes, prepare a seven-minute speech answering the selected question. Students may consult articles and evidence they gather prior to the contest, but may not use the Internet during preparation. International topics range from country-specific issues to regional concerns to foreign policy. Domestic topics range from political matters to economic concerns to U.S. foreign policy. The speech is delivered from memory. At most local tournaments, there is one division of Extemporaneous speaking, but at national tournaments the event is divided by international and domestic topics.
 8. **Humorous Interpretation**-Using a play, short story, or other published work, students perform a selection of one or more portions of a piece up to ten minutes in length. Humorous Interpretation is designed to test a student's comedic skills through script analysis, delivery, timing, and character development. Competitors may portray one or multiple characters. No props or costumes may be used. Performances also include an introduction written by the student to contextualize the performance and state the title and the author.
 9. **Original Oratory**-Students deliver a self-written, ten-minute speech on a topic of their choosing. Limited in their ability to quote words directly, competitors craft an argument using evidence, logic, and emotional appeals. Topics range widely, and can be informative or persuasive in nature. The speech is delivered from memory.
 10. **Program Oral Interpretation**- POI is a program of oral interpretation of thematically-linked selections chosen from two or three genres: prose, narrative, story, language, and/or characterization. A primary focus of this event should be on the development of the theme or argument through the use of narrative, story, language and/or characterization.
 11. **Informative Speaking**- An informative speech is an original speech designed to explain, define, describe, or illustrate a particular subject. The general purpose of the speech is for the audience to gain understanding and/or knowledge of a topic. Any other purpose such as to entertain or to convince shall be secondary. The use of audio/visual aids is encouraged.
- B. New Jersey Speech and Debate League (NJSDDL) Events-*These events are seen at most all local tournaments. Rules may change at each tournament, so students are advised to review tournament guidelines in advance. These events do not qualify to the NSDA National Tournament or the TOC.*
1. **Declamation**-Students deliver a speech that was originally delivered by someone else. From the historical greats to contemporary public orations, students have 10 minutes to perform a memorized speech with an introduction. Topics can vary widely based on the interest of the student. The goal of Declamation is for the student to perform another speaker's message in their own voice.**Open to students in the ninth or tenth grades only.**
 2. **Impromptu Speaking**-Impromptu is a public speaking event where students have seven minutes to select a topic, brainstorm their ideas, outline and deliver a speech. The speech is given without notes and uses an introduction, body, and conclusion. The speech can be light-hearted or serious. It can be based upon prompts that range from nursery rhymes, current events, celebrities, organizations, and more.
 3. **Improvitational Acting**-This is a performance event where students have seven minutes to select a topic, brainstorm their ideas, and perform their scene. The scene can be humorous or dramatic in nature and uses a selected topic as inspiration for a story with a clear beginning, middle and end. There can be multiple characters and voices if the performer chooses. This event includes an introduction.
 4. **Poetry Reading**-Using a selection or selections of literature, students provide an oral interpretation of poetry. Poetry is characterized by writing that conveys ideas, experiences, and emotions through language and expression. Students may choose traditional poetry, often characterized by rhyme or rhythm, or nontraditional poetry, which often has a rhythmic flow but is not necessarily structured by formal meter (meter is a beat, pattern, or structure, such as iambic pentameter). Students may not use prose, nor drama (plays) in this category. This event includes an introduction.
 5. **Prose Reading**-Using a short story, parts of a novel, or other published work of prose, students provide an oral interpretation of a selection of materials. Typically a single piece of literature, prose can be drawn from works of fiction or non-fiction. Prose corresponds to common speech patterns and may combine elements of narration and dialogue. Students may not use poetry, or drama (plays), in this category. This event includes an introduction.
- C. Newark Catholic Forensic League (NCFL) Events-*These events are seen at the six local CFL tournaments, and the CFL Grand Nationals.*

1. **Dramatic Performance**-Students present selections from published plays, screenplays, fictional or non-fictional work that are either serious or humorous in nature. The selections must be memorized with a maximum length of ten minutes. Essentially, at CFL tournaments the HI and DI events are combined.
 2. **Oral Interpretation**-Students present selections in two categories -- prose and poetry. Each selection must be a maximum of ten minutes in length. The student must hold a manuscript and appear to be reading. The students alternate between rounds of prose and rounds of poetry.
- D. **Consolation and Supplemental Events (NSDA)**-*These events are seen at the NSDA National Tournament. Students may enter this event if they are eliminated from competition at certain points throughout the national tournament.*
1. **Expository Speaking**-Expository Speaking is a five minute informative speech that introduces to the audience a topic of the student's choosing. The speaker should provide unique insights and explore interesting implications. At its core, Expository Speaking is an informative speech. Students doing Expository may cover topics ranging from an organization to a product , a process or concept. Effective speeches provide new information or perspectives on a topic, including those that are widely known.
 2. **Extemporaneous Commentary**-Extemporaneous Commentary is a public speaking event where students draw topics on a range of societal, political, historic, or popular interest and in 20 minutes prepare a five minute speech which responds to the selected prompt. Students may consult articles and evidence during their preparation time. During the speech itself students are seated behind a desk or table and provide perspective on the given topic. Typically students advocate for a particular position, argument, or opinion during their five minutes, citing sources in the development of the speech for support.
 3. **Extemporaneous Debate**-Extemporaneous Debate is a supplemental event at the National Speech & Debate Tournament. Students compete in a one-on-one format with limited prep time to prepare for the topic they are to debate. Students present arguments and engage in rebuttals, however, unlike other common debate events, students debate a number of topics, as opposed to a single topic for the entire tournament. Each round students are presented a unique resolution. They are given a minimum of thirty minutes to prepare for the round. The use of evidence is permitted, but not a focal point due to the limited time available to prepare a case for the round.
 4. **Storytelling**-Students select a published story that meets a designated theme. Themes range widely and may include mysteries, heroism, or fairy tales. Students select a story that would be appropriate for young children and tell the story as if presenting to that audience. This event is five minutes. Students may use a chair. Manuscripts are not permitted.
- E. **Other Events**-*There are other events in which students may be able to compete throughout the year at various local and national tournament. Students should always review tournament guidelines before preparing for an event.*
1. Parliamentary Debate
 2. Radio Speaking

IV. Team Communication

A. Email

1. All official team communication will be sent from millburnspeechanddebate@gmail.com . Please make sure this email is added to your safe senders list.
2. Any inquiries from parents or students should be directed to millburnspeechanddebate@gmail.com

B. Newsletters

1. A team newsletter will be sent usually weekly.
2. To receive this newsletter, please submit your email during the team registration process, subscribe at millburnspeechanddebate.org or email a request to millburnspeechanddebate@gmail.com

C. Website

1. The official team website is www.millburnspeechanddebate.org
2. This website includes the following:
 - a) Tournament Season Calendar
 - b) Official Tournament Registration
 - c) Judging Sign Ups
 - d) Handbook and Forms
 - e) Team results
 - f) Team history
 - g) Speech and Debate resources for team members only

D. **Any other forms of communication are not officially sponsored by the team or Millburn High School.**

V. Recognition

- A. NSDA Honor Society-recognizes students for participation in speech and debate activities. Students earn distinction through speech and debate competition, as well community service, public speaking, and leadership activities. In addition to offering the student a deserved honor, this offers a measure to demonstrate commitment to the activity to colleges or other entities.
 - 1. Points and Degrees-The highest point earners are published in the weekly newsletter and on the website.
 - a) Merit-25 pts
 - b) Honor-75 Points
 - c) Excellence-150 points
 - d) Distinction-250 points
 - e) Special Distinction-500 points
 - f) Superior Distinction-750 points
 - g) Outstanding Distinction-1,000 points
 - h) Premier Distinction-1,500 points
 - 2. All District and All American -The top students in the country each year are named All Americans. Following the National Speech & Debate Tournament, the 25 students with the highest total points in each district and in the country receive this recognition.
 - 3. Academic All American-The Academic All American award recognizes students who have:
 - a) Earned the degree of Superior Distinction (750 points)
 - b) Earned a GPA of 3.7 on a 4.0 scale (or its equivalent)
 - c) Received an ACT score of 27 or higher, or SAT combined score of 2000 or higher
 - d) Completed at least 5 semesters of high school
 - e) Demonstrated outstanding character and leadership
 - 4. Student of the Year-Every year, the National Speech & Debate Association recognizes one student, nationally, who best embodies the traits of its Code of Honor: humility, integrity, leadership, respect, and service.
- B. Millburn team recognition
 - 1. Captains and coaches may recognize students formally or informally throughout the year or at the end of the year banquet for exemplary performance.
 - 2. Millburn also recognizes two seniors who are exceptional members of the Speech and Debate team at the annual high school awards ceremony.

VI. Boosters Organization

- A. Mission Statement:
 - 1. To support the coaches and students who comprise the Millburn High School Speech and Debate Team.
 - 2. To raise funds which supplement the Board of Education budget. These funds are used for, but not limited to: hiring additional coaching staff and reimbursing travel expenses, covering any additional transportation costs, and purchasing research/source materials.
 - 3. To organize volunteers and hospitality for home tournaments, parent meetings, Back to School Night and training sessions.
 - 4. To provide opportunities for student bonding/team building and to instill team spirit and pride.
- B. Parent Responsibilities
 - 1. Parents are encouraged to support the team through judging at tournaments on behalf of their children, to become active participants in the Boosters.
 - 2. Parents are asked NOT to drop in on team practices on Wednesday nights.
 - 3. **Parents are asked to follow the standard procedure at MHS of having STUDENTS bring any concerns they may have on the team to the coaches/sponsor FIRST. If after meeting with sponsor and coaches, the team member still feels dissatisfied with the outcome, the parent may then contact the sponsor/coaches directly.** Approaching the administration should be the last resort if the above protocol is followed and a mutual agreement is unattainable. Parents are urged to follow this MHS protocol so we may work together smoothly for the success of the team.

For more information about supporting the team through the Booster organization, please contact millburnspeechanddebate@gmail.com

Student

I have read and carefully reviewed the obligations and expectations of the Millburn Speech and Debate team as described in the Speech and Debate Handbook. I am willing to uphold these standards and meet the responsibilities required of a Speech and Debate team member.

Student Signature

Date

Parent approval: I have reviewed this contract and the Speech and Debate Handbook with my child and I feel I have a reasonable understanding of the obligations and responsibilities placed on members of the Millburn Speech and Debate team.

Returning parents: I have reviewed the highlighted portions to ensure that I understand the important changes to the Speech and Debate Handbook.

Parent Signature

Date

(Return this page with your Team Dues and all other registration forms to the coaches prior to the deadline in order to avoid late fees.)