

# Summary of the Speech, Debate & Theatre Advisory Committee Meeting with Board Action

July 30, 2024

1. Recommends the removal of the slide scheduling in debate administration. Instead of slide scheduling, rounds one and two would be randomly scheduled. Round three would be power match off of round one, while round four would be power match off of round one and two. Motion passed 7-0.

2. Recommends eliminating draw codes in debate administration. Replace draw codes with school codes set numerically by the tournament manager, thus all events will use the same codes. Motion passed 7-0.

3. Recommends for the district and state Speech & Debate Tournament, debate rounds will be scheduled the day of competition. Rounds one and two will be scheduled once all schools have checked-in on the date of competition. Motion passed 7-0.

4. Recommends in the activity of debate, A teams are no longer required to hit and are not limited to hitting B teams. Furthermore, B teams are no longer required to hit and are not limited to hitting A teams. Motion passed 7-0.

\*\*\* 5. Recommends ~~adding an overall championship team plaque at the~~ the following processes will be used for determining championship factor points. District tournament sweeps points for speech and debate will be summed for each school to determine district and state tournament championship factor points. State tournament sweeps points for speech and debate will be summed for each school to determine state championship factor points. No awards will be given for these overall points leaders, leaving the structure maintaining the same points structure used to determine the speech championship team and the debate championship team will remain. The championship factor points procedure will follow board policy outlined in the 2024-2025 Official MSHSAA Handbook. The overall championship team plaque award would mirror the award structure already in place for the district and state tournaments (top 2 for districts and top 4 for state). In order to be eligible for the overall championship team award, a school must have entered at least one entry in at least one speech event and at least one entry in at least one debate event. The entries would not be required to advance to the elimination rounds. Motion passed 7-0.

6. Recommends amending the judge requirement for the district debate tournament to require class one debate schools to provide one judge per debate event entered. Class two schools would be required to provide one judge per debate event entered plus one additional judge if a third entry is entered in any single debate event. Motion passed 7-0.

7. Recommends amending the judge requirement for the district speech tournament to require class one speech schools to provide one judge for every seven entries or fraction thereof, not to exceed a total of three judges. Class two schools would be required to provide one judge for every seven entries or fraction thereof, not to exceed a total of five judges. Motion passed 7-0.

8. Recommends amending the judge requirement for the state debate tournament to require class one debate schools to provide one judge if the school qualifies a debate entry, plus one additional judge if the school qualifies four or more debate teams. Class two schools would be required to provide one judge if the school qualifies a debate entry, plus one additional judge if the school qualifies four or more debate teams. Class two debate schools who qualify 8 or more debate teams to the state championships would be required to provide a third judge. Motion passed 7-0.

9. Recommends amending the judge requirement for the state speech tournament to require both class one and two speech schools to provide one judge. Motion passed 7-0.

- \* Denied
- \*\* Tabled for further study
- \*\*\* Approved as amended
- \*\*\*\* No Action necessary
- All others approved