

**SPEECH AND DEBATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Wednesday, May 6, 2020**  
**9:30 a.m.**  
**VIA ZOOM CONFERENCE**

**Welcome and Introductions**

**Old Business:**

1. Role of Advisory Committees
2. Approval of 2019 minutes
3. Results of the Survey - Classification

**COVID Topics:**

1. Might extra-curricular sports and activities for 2020-21 look significantly different that we are used to (Kappeler)
  - a. Is it possible/likely that some will subject to social distancing guidelines or be canceled altogether?
  - b. Is it possible that we cannot safely sponsor football, basketball or even speech for the next academic year?
2. Virtual Tournaments (Whyte/Higgins)
  - a. Rule on whether online tournaments that are "hosted" by institutions outside of 250 miles are implicated by any way by the sections mentioned above for regular season or post-season travel. (Higgins)

**New Business:**

1. Regular Season
  - a. I would like to propose dropping Theatre from Speech/Debate/Theatre and making Theatre its own MSHSAA activity. One activity is called Speech and Debate. Another activity is called Theatre. (Kappeler)
  - b. OAP: All performance and technical elements of the performance must be executive by students. Director/coach/adult involvement should be limited to assisting with setup/strike and relevant coaching prior to the start of the performance. (Kappeler)
  - c. OAP: I would like to propose that more information be provided to all directors in advance- primarily the titles/authors of the selections and the use of any special effects (ie: strobe lighting, etc). (Kappeler)
  - d. Internet connectivity during tournaments. (Whyte)
  - e. Grace time in debate events; what can be done to adhere to time limits. (Whyte)
  - f. Add "Informative Speaking" as an event. (Bushmeyer)
  - g. Continue exploring the idea of multiple divisions/classifications but only through the lens of expanding the state tournament to hold separate contests for each division/classification. (Higgins)
  - h. Change Rule 4.3.2 B from " A school may participate in one interscholastic event..." to " A student may participate in one interscholastic event..." (Higgins)
  - i. Change
  - j. Change Rule 4.3.4 D from " A school may travel to the site of one out of state tournament or invitational meet per year beyond 250 air miles from the perimeter..." to " A student may travel to the site of one out of state tournament or invitational meet per year beyond 250 air miles from the perimeter..." (Higgins)
  - k. Change Rule 4.2.4. D to allow tournaments up to 500 miles away. (Higgins)

2. District/State

- a. Since there was no state tournament this year, can my kids use the same pieces next year at our District Tournament since not all District Tournaments were completed this year? (Oesch)
- b. Debate Scheduling for Districts (Higgins)
  - i. Break brackets in debate elims to stop teams from hitting themselves when avoidable.
  - ii. Do not "protect" B seed teams. Either randomly set the entire tournament or power match 3 off of 1 and 4 off of 1 and 2.
- c. Alternative State Tournament Options (Higgins)
  - i. Hosting in the early Fall of 2020
  - ii. Hosting a virtual competition over the summer
- d. Prose and Poetry Rules Elimination: Consider re-examining the ballot/ rule language for Prose and Poetry Reading: "Although the material should be well in mind, it shall not be memorized and shall be read from the printed page with occasional eye contact." I would like to see this RULE eliminated. (Higgins)
- e. Debate Plaques. (Higgins)