**Fourth through Eighth Grade**

**Speech and Debate Team Informational Packet and Permission Form**

Dear Parents:

Saint Louise de Marillac School is excited to continue its very successful speech and debate team for the school year 2021-2022. Below is important information about being part of this team.

Speech and Debate is more than getting up in front of people and reading a report. It involves preparation, presentation, practice, writing, critical thinking, and body language skills. Skills learned through this team participation will be useful throughout your child’s lifetime.

Saint Louise de Marillac School has been invited to compete at the La Salle High School Speech and Debate Tournament in Pasadena. This tournament will consist of other schools. The tournament will be held on January 25, 2022, and the start time will be at 3:00 PM. This tournament will last until about 8PM that evening. Those students competing at this tournament will be allowed to leave school at 1:30 PM without being marked in attendance so that they can get dressed for the tournament and make it to the tournament site on time. Students will also have no homework assigned on this day as well as tests the following day.

Parents will need to get their child to the tournament site on the day of the tournament or have an arrangement in place with another parent to get their child (ren) to the tournament site. Please notify the school’s office if plans have been made with other parents. In addition, this will be a VERY busy day for coaches; therefore, they will not be responsible for supervising the students at the tournament. Parents will need to supervise their child(ren) during the entire tournament. However, coaches will be visible and stay in constant contact with the students between rounds. All students will compete in three rounds.

Below are the categories for this tournament. Each will be discussed on the first day of the meeting.

**For Students in 6-8th grade**

Duo Interpretation

Humorous Interpretation

Dramatic Interpretation

Impromptu

SPAR Debate

**For Graders 4-5th Grade**

Storytelling

Duo Interpretation

Informational Speech

SPAR Debate

* **Fees:**  $15.00 per student. Please make your check out to St. Louise de Marillac School.
* **Team meetings:** Monday afternoons from 3:00-4:00 PM

Additional meetings will be scheduled, as tournament date get closer.

* **Tournament dress:** for boys: long pants, dress shirts and ties. For girls: nice dress, skirt/blouse or nice pantsuit ensemble. Black and White are the official colors for a speech and debate tournament. Students are encouraged to wear these colors.
* **Parent volunteers:** the team will need donations of bottled water, snacks, and possibly judges on tournament days (judges will be trained on the day of the tournament by Mrs. Campos and the league administrator). The team will also need volunteer coaches to listen and critique the students’ presentations, especially as tournament dates draw near. **Volunteer coaches** will need to have their **Virtus training certificate and fingerprints in the school’s office**. Volunteers will also need to place **their proof of having the COVID 19 vaccine in the school’s office or submit weekly test results to the office.**
* **Questions:** You can email Mrs. Campos at Grade4@stlouisedm.org or Mr. Ebiner-Gavit at Grade5@stlouisedm.org

If you would like your child to be a part of this exciting team, please read carefully the attached TWO forms and fill out each form and return it to Mrs. Campos no later than **October 14, 2021.** We will have our first informational meeting on **October 18,** **2021** , in the fourth grade beginning at 3:00 PM.

**Check off List to be turned in:**

 **Signed Permission slip to join the team**

 **Signed Expectation form**

 **Check for $15.00**

**(These forms can be found on the 4th grade website under speech and debate)**

Thank you,

Mrs. Campos and Mr. Ebiner- Gavit

Speech and Debate Coaches and Moderators

Fourth and Fifth Grade Teachers

**Speech and Debate Team 2021-2022**

**Saint Louise de Marillac Speech and Debate Permission Form**

(Please Print)

Student Name:

Parent Name:

Parent Home Phone Number:

Parent Cell Phone Number:

Parent E-Mail Address:

Please enclose a check for $15.00 (membership fee per student).

I have read the preceding information about St. Louise de Marillac Speech and Debate Team and would like my child to participate.

I am able to support the St. Louise de Marillac Speech and Debate Team by helping in the following ways:

Assist as a coach:

Provide snacks or drinks to the team on tournament days:

Speech and Debate Team Parent: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature:

Date:

 **Speech and Debate Team Expectations**

**2021-2022**

Welcome to the Saint Louise de Marillac’s Speech and Debate Team. My goal is to help students improve their public speaking skills and to coach them to be competitive in the tournament world. We are in a league with other Catholic, Private, and Christian Schools in the San Gabriel Valley. The Saint Louise de Marillac Speech and Debate Team is for students who are willing to put forth their time and effort to compete. Being on the Speech and Debate Team requires dedication and hard work and it is unfair to the students who show this commitment to allow others who do not share this same commitment to compete in tournaments and, ultimately, to stay on the team.

Team practices will take place Monday afternoons from 3:00 to 4:00 PM. Attendance at these meetings is required. Team members practice basic public speaking skills, hear and see examples of famous speeches and routines, and work on their tournament pieces in small groups and in front of a coach. As the tournament day gets closer, the team will meet daily.

The following expectations will be in place for the school year while on the team. **Please read them and sign on the next page and return to Mrs. Campos by October 14, 2021.** If you have any questions or comments, please, contact Mrs. Campos or Mr. Ebiner- Gavit.

**Expectations for Team Members:**

* Team members must commit to attend all meetings.
* At these meetings, team members must come prepared to work on their public speaking skills and to prepare for tournament.
* Team members must meet deadlines given by their coaches in preparation for each tournament.
* Team members must work on and practice their pieces **at home** in order to be at a truly competitive skill level in this league.
* Team members are expected to behave respectfully at team meetings and at tournaments. Team members represent the school and themselves at these tournaments.
* Once a team member commits to compete in a tournament that team member is responsible for all the work involved in getting ready for that competition.
* The debate team will need to bring a device, pen and Post Its to meetings.
* If a team member comes to practice unprepared or not willing to make good use of practice time, the student will be sent to day care.
* This year, we are asking each team member to pay $15.00. Checks should be made payable to Saint Louise de Marillac School.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Campos, Speech and Debate Coach and Moderator Grade4@stlouisedm.org

Mr. Ebiner- Gavit, Speech and Debate Coach and Moderator Grade5@stlouisedm.org

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_