



WESTFIELD SPEECH AND DEBATE

Speech and debate improves critical thinking and writing skills.
Speech and debate increases your skill and confidence in public speaking.
In speech and debate you meet amazing students and teachers from all over the state.
Speech and debate is flexible. You can plan tournament attendance around your other activities.
Speech and debate gives you the opportunity to represent Westfield, win awards and qualify for State, and become a member of the National Speech and Debate Association.

Donnie, Simona, Ella,
 and Cristian (w/ award)
 Carrollton HS, Carrollton, GA November 2019

2021 – 2022 Georgia Tournament Schedule

September 17-18	Northview HS, Virtual
September 24-25	Marist School, Virtual
October 1-2	Calhoun HS, TBD
October 8-9	Valdosta HS, Virtual
October 15-16	Johns Creek HS, In-person
October 22-23	Sequoyah HS, In-person
November 12-13	Carrollton HS, TBD
November 20-22	Westminster (ATL), Virtual
February 4-5	1 st year/2 nd year State, TBD
February 25-27	Univ. of Georgia, TBD
March 4-5	GFCFA State, TBD

(Other tournaments will likely be added.)

A few past Public Forum topics

- Resolved: In the United States, social media is beneficial for democratic values.
- Resolved: On balance, the benefits of creating the United States Space Force outweigh the harms.
- Resolved: The National Security Agency should end its surveillance of U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents.
- Resolved: On balance, charter schools are beneficial to the quality of education in the United States.
- Resolved: The United States should remove nearly all of its military presence in the Arab States of the Persian Gulf.

2019 – 2020 Westfield Photos



Donnie with award at Warner Robins HS, October 2019



Donnie, Simona, Mahi, Kaitlyn, and Ella at R.W. Johnson HS, Gainesville, GA October 2019

2019 – 2020 Westfield Photos



Between rounds



Cristian receiving award
 H.W. Grady HS, Atlanta, GA November 2019





Shelby, Cristian, and Mahi
at H.W. Grady HS,
November 2019

Donnie and Simona at
Jackson HS, Jackson GA
January 2020



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Public Forum Debate

Two-person teams debate on current events topics. Teams present PRO and CON cases, refute opponent cases, and question each other in Crossfire. Debaters need to be able to analyze issues, process research, construct arguments, think quickly on their feet, work well with a partner, and speak persuasively.

Lincoln-Douglas Debate

One-person teams debate social and philosophical topics. The debaters participate in constructive speeches, rebuttals, cross-examinations. They analyze issues, construct arguments, and refute opponents.

Congressional Debate

Students debate bills and resolutions. Students asking to speak are recognized by a presiding officer. Speeches alternate for and against bills or resolutions until the chamber decides to vote.

Extemporaneous Speaking

Students choose one of three current events topics, prepare for 30 minutes, and give a persuasive speech on their selected topic. Speeches have an introduction, (usually three) body points, and a conclusion. Maximum length is 7 minutes.

Original Oratory

Students write and deliver an informative or persuasive speech on a topic they choose. The speech should be memorized but can be used throughout the school year. Maximum length is 10 minutes.

Informative Speaking

Students write and deliver an informative speech about a process or an issue of personal significance to the student. Visual aids are allowed. Maximum length is 10 minutes.

Impromptu

Students select one of three topics and generally have two minutes to prepare and five minutes to speak. The speech is given without notes and should have an introduction, body, and conclusion. Topics are usually single words, phrases, quotes, or ideas that fit within a chosen category.

Dramatic Interp., Humorous Interp., and Duo Interp.

Students enact a 10 minute cutting from a published play. In DI and HI all the characters are performed by one student. No costumes or props are allowed. Maximum length is 10 minutes.

