



## NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

### SPEECH COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes of June 1, 2023 Meeting

The Speech Committee met on Thursday, June 1, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. at the NSAA Office. Taryn Retzlaff, Assistant Director of the NSAA, chaired the meeting. The mission of the committee was to develop the 2023-24 Speech judge's exam, discuss legislative changes, and review the manuals.

Committee members present were Matt Heimes, Lincoln Southwest, Becky Stahr, York, Sabrina Denney-Bull, Millard North, Jarod Ockander, David City, Heather Heimes, Wynot, Jeffrey Horner, Minden, Tyler Thompson, Gering and Janelle Armstrong of Grand Island Central Catholic. Ex-officio members included NSAA staff members Taryn Retzlaff and Cindy Callaway.

The committee formulated questions for the 2023-24 Speech judge's exam. Taryn made the committee aware of the legislative changes that were passed at the April Representative Assembly meeting. The committee discussed how these changes would affect the language in the manuals and on the ballots.

The committee provided Taryn with topics they would like to see covered in the 2023-24 rules meeting. Some of the items suggested were costuming, how to remind judges to reference the rubric more frequently, providing time signals to extemp speakers, student and audience etiquette. The NSAA will create a video and etiquette poster and make it available for schools to hang in their school during speech tournaments and throughout the season.

The committee discussed the need for additional resources for directors interested in hosting districts. Taryn will gather information from previous district hosts and make their information available on the speech page of the NSAA website.

Taryn reviewed the results of a survey she had sent out to all speech coaches. The committee discussed the importance of the Reason for Decision box on the speech ballots and how important it was for each judge to write constructive criticism and give the speaker a clean and concise understanding of why they rated and ranked the speaker the way they did.

The tie breaking process was reviewed by the committee.

With no further business, the committee adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Taryn Retzlaff, Assistant Director