Mount Si Speech and

Contract 2017 - 2018
This document is intended to inform debaters (parents, relatives, other interested parties and prospective debaters) of the Mount Si High School debating program. The debate team shall be exemplary representatives of Mount Si High School. The policies are as follows:

I. PHILOSOPHY AND OBJECTIVES

The Mount Si High School speech and debate program are student activities. As a student activity, its first and foremost responsibility to the student is to support and not to compromise the student’s academic career. Secondly, the program should aid in developing the student participant into a responsible, mature and independent adult. Specifically, the program is a means of improving the student’s mental and physical well-being. Debating is an activity where the student (1) will be provided leadership training; (2) will develop the ability to make decisions; (3) will enhance the ability to respond to life’s situations, e.g., conflict, anger and frustration, win/loss, and react in an appropriate manner; (4) will contribute to social development, e.g., awareness of one’s self, development of self-confidence, development of interpersonal relationships; and (5) generally will maximize the opportunity for student growth, change and maturity.

The primary purpose of all Mount Si speech and debaters is to be members of the team, which has as its goal to support Mount Si High School. That support is directed into two major areas, as follows: (1) to participate in the forensic activity known as speech and debate by performing either as an individual or as part of a 2 person team for competitive purposes; and (2) to serve as public relations ambassadors of Mount Si High School to uphold, reflect and project the goals and ideals of Mount Si High School to appear at Mount Si High School activities, functions and programs, at charitable and public causes to promote Mount Si High School.

II. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Mount Si High School's debating program has three levels of competition: Novice, Junior and Open.

Please visit the National Speech and Debate Association (NSDA) website for more information http://www.speechanddebate.org/

III. INVOLVEMENT AT FUNCTIONS/EVENTS

In addition to practices and competitions, the coach and advisor may choose to have the speech and debate team attend a number of public relations and/or fundraising events each year.

The team members shall appear only at events/activities which will reflect positively on them as individuals and as representatives of Mount Si High School.

IV. DRUG, ALCOHOL, TOBACCO POLICY

As stated earlier, debaters are expected, first, to provide a positive image. This expectation is foremost when it comes to tobacco, drug, and/or alcohol use. Debaters are reminded that, as highly visible members of the Mount Si High School community, their actions and behavior are under constant observation.

Drugs/Alcohol/Tobacco Policy: See the Mt. Si athletic policy on the Mt. Si HS website. By signing this contract you are agreeing to abide by this policy at all times.

V. ACADEMIC

Standard:
Students must pass all classes and maintain at least a 2.5 semester GPA in order to participate.

**Procedure:**

Grade checks will be conducted by the main office. In addition, the administration has the ability to check grades at any point throughout the season. Any debater failing to meet the academic requirements listed above during the grade check may be placed on probationary status, and is subject to a weekly grade check process until the grade(s) is meeting standards. Grade checks will continue for 2 weeks past when the grade has started meeting standards.

Team members who have a cumulative grade point average below 2.5 but meet the previous semester grade requirements will be considered on immediate probationary status and subject to weekly grade checks while participating. They will remain on probation during each season until the cumulative GPA is above 2.5 and will not be allowed to perform in tournaments, assemblies or competitions.

**VI. ATTENDANCE POLICY**

All team members are required to attend a full day of classes in order to participate in competition that day. Reasonable excuses, such as doctor/dentist appointment, field trips, etc., will be cleared by the coach.

If the team member is tardy or has an unexcused absence, they will follow the policy decided by the coach.

**A. RULES AND REGULATIONS**

**General**

Team members shall:
1. Maintain at least a 2.5 grade point average, and maintain passing grades in all classes
2. Be enrolled as a full-time or part-time student at Mount Si High School. (Exceptions can be made by coach.)
3. Team members may not consume alcoholic beverages or any controlled substances. (See section IV. Alcohol, Drugs, Tobacco Use and/or Abuse in this document.)
4. Team members must follow the guidelines for academic standards (Refer to section V Academic Policy in this document.)
5. Team members must follow the guidelines for attendance (Refer to section VI Attendance Policy in this document.)
6. Each team members will sign the Debate Contract before the first tournament.
7. Team members are expected to work as a team and be a part of the collaboration that is required. Individual members are encouraged to be close friends. Team members' friendships or non-friendships shall not have a negative effect on the team. Team members who are dating are not allowed to be in a partnership to avoid any problematic team dynamics.
8. Care must be taken to ensure your clothing/suits / business casual is in a clean and presentable condition.
9. These rules and regulations are subject to modification when found necessary and beneficial. The coach makes final acceptance of all rules.

**B. PRACTICES**

Team members shall:
1. Attend at least 6/8 debate meetings per month and/or 3/4 speech meetings per month.
2. Be on time to practice.
3. Notify coach as soon as possible if he/she finds it impossible to attend practice or knows he/she is going to be tardy.

**C. TOURNAMENTS**

Team members shall:
1. Compete at a minimum of 3 tournaments (Round Robin will count as a tournament, though not official)
2. Arrive at the tournament site at designated time
3. Arrive at the tournament site ready and prepared
4. Provide a judge (parent or other) for at least one day of each tournament – or possibly forfeit competing at that tournament if another judge cannot be found to fill in.
5. Team members may not be transported by students
6. The team or a portion thereof will travel with an adult chaperone (parent judge) as a group and return as a group. Exceptions can be made prior to the tournament day if the situation is absolutely necessary and discussed with the coach.
7. Final authority of all decisions made while traveling shall rest with the coach.
8. When only a specific number of debaters are attending a tournament, camp or competition, final authority on who goes rests with the coach. Consideration as to the selection shall be as follows: (1) determination of who wants to go; (2) attendance records at practices, tournaments, special events with due consideration to tardiness; (3) input from the team (vote as to whom the team thinks would be best to go). Other methods of selection, which could be used, are (1) drawing (2) seniority (3) class or (4) grade point average.
9. Members will return their awards by the end of the year—this includes all awards earned throughout the year. The club pays for tournament fees and thus owns your awards.

D. LETTERING
Students will be able to receive a “Letter” for competing in debate and completing the following requirements. This can be earned in 1 year or over multiple years. Students must log their completion of the requirements and have Ms. King sign off on each aspect as it is completed.
1. Compete in 7 tournaments
2. Earn 250+ NSDA points
3. Volunteer with Debate for at least 25 hours
4. Work on 10 hours of fundraising for Speech and Debate

E. MISCELLANEOUS
1. Team members can attend Bellevue College (Running Start). However, these students are expected to schedule their BC classes so that they do not interfere with practices.
2. If a team member quits or is removed from the team for any reason, that debater is still responsible for their balance in full. Team members who do not complete the entire debate season (approx. October through March) will not receive ASB funds towards their balance.
3. Team members who are in a partnership for speech or debate have the right to change partners at any time. The coach has the right to not sign up teams who are not prepared, have not shown dedication or are not working well together. As a general rule, students in relationships should not be in a partnership and will need to discuss with the coach before competing to avoid problematic situations.

VII. Team members and parents should not badmouth, gossip, etc. about coaches, team members or other programs. Any individual found making unkind remarks about the program can potentially be suspended or removed from the team. PARTICIPATION FEE INFORMATION

The participation fee for this activity is $25 for the school year.

The Wildcat Speech and Debate Boosters will be organizing and scheduling fundraisers.

VIII. COMMUNICATION
The debate season is comprised of weekly practices, tournaments, community events, fundraisers, etc. The coaches will do most communication of the scheduling of these events and any changes via email. It is imperative that both you and your debater provide an email address that you check daily for any updates
and changes as tournaments and events can change at last minute.

Mount Si Debate also has a Facebook page which is used to provide event reminders, shout-outs, last minute volunteering opportunities, etc. Although debaters are not required to have a Facebook page, it can be useful because some non-mandatory opportunities, reminders, etc. will not be sent out via email.

Text messages will occasionally be used to send out reminders from the coaches or officers.

If you do not have texting capabilities OR Facebook, debaters and parents must be diligent about checking their email at least once a day.

**IX. LEADERSHIP**

**The Team President oversees the following responsibilities:**

- Serving as the best possible representative of what this organization stands for and leading as a role model for all other members.
- Leading meetings for both club and officers: Managing club meetings in terms of structure and scheduling.
- Collaborating with the Advisor to create meeting plans and running team meetings in terms of content.
- Collaborating with the Advisor to manage the organization and ensure logistical requirements such as judging and carpooling are met.
- Assisting in the organization of all other team and Officer events.
- Managing team preparation and collaboration systems online and ensuring that all team members contribute equally.
- Maintaining good Public Relations (PR) for the organization and actively promoting the organization in our community.

**The Secretary oversees the following responsibilities:**

- Taking minutes at all Officer Board meetings and submitting them to both ASB and the Advisor.
- Maintaining the organization’s website.
- Taking attendance at all club and officer meetings—this means that the secretary must attend ALL meetings in a week, every week. In case of emergency absence, another board member must take attendance.
- Informing members of their removal from active status based on their attendance records, in collaboration with the Advisor.
- Drafting club and parent email updates with the Advisor.
- Keeping track of all club communications, receivables, and other information.
- Work with the Boosters to plan and manage fundraisers.

**The Treasurer oversees the following responsibilities:**

- Tracking ASB funds to ensure the organization has enough for all planned tournaments and events.
- Arranging fundraisers both with ASB and Boosters to fund the organization.
- Logging and entering NSDA points with the Advisor the day following a tournament.
- Organizing and managing all club payments and accounting.
- Tracking volunteer, service, and lettering hours, as outlined in the contract.

**The Outreach Representative oversees the following responsibilities:**

- Working on promoting the organization’s community involvement through organizing
fundraisers and service events throughout the Snoqualmie Valley.

- Coordinating attire, PR, and marketing for the organization.
- Assisting the Secretary in maintaining the organization’s website.
- Organizing ASB fundraisers with the Treasurer.
- Organizing marketing for ASB, Booster, and other events for the club.
- Communicating with Freshmen and Freshman campus to make sure that events are duly publicized.

X. PARENT SUPPORT

Speech and debate is unlike other activities in that we require parent partnership. When registering teams for competitions we also need to register parent judges.

Judging requirements vary but on average the need is: for every 3 teams we register to compete we need one judge for each of the competition days. The only judge requirement is that you have graduated high school, so this means we can call on parents, aunts, uncles, grandparents, friends and neighbors.

We will ask that for every competition your child signs up, that student will have to provide a judge for one of the two competition days. We ask that you check the schedule in advance and book which tournaments you can cover and add these to your personal calendars.
If the student is unable to find a judge and if the school team as a whole is unable to meet the judging requirement then that student may forfeit competing at that tournament.

The Mount Si Debate Program needs parent support to thrive. The first parent club meeting will be Monday, September 20th at 6:30-8 p.m. During this time the Wildcat Speech and Debate Boosters will also be present. The program is in need of individuals willing to take on the following roles and responsibilities outlined below. Even if you do not want to be an officer, please support the boosters in whatever way you can. We will have smaller committees for different projects.
1. I will remember, at all times, that I represent Mount Si High School students, faculty and staff, and that my behavior will be such that it will bring respect to the team, our leadership, athletics, the school, my family and myself. This also includes online behavior and images including but not limited to Facebook, Twitter, etc.

2. I will follow the rules and regulations set up by the school and the individual team of which I am a member.

3. I will maintain good citizenship and academics according to the Mount Si High School athletic and academic policies.

4. I will behave in a respectful manner towards all administrators, faculty, staff, supervisors, coaches, chaperones, parents, and community members and realize that my individual behavior can be viewed as a reflection of the entire team.

5. Any involvement with drinking, drugs, or tobacco could result in dismissal from the team. See Section IV in the Debating Constitution for clarification.

6. I will share equally in all duties of leadership, which includes attending activities, wearing uniform/debate wear on tournament days, and being a positive influence on and off campus.

7. My attendance will be comply with the requirements, unless I am at home ill and a parent verifies it. I will be on time to practice, tournaments, and required activities, and I will come prepared. Failure to comply with attendance policy will result in consequences. Failure to communicate with the Coach will result in increased penalties.

8. I will be open and honest with my Coach in all matters. If something is bothering me, I will go directly to my Coach and not “cause waves” within the organization.

9. I will not discuss, outside of debate, any issues of concern discussed in meetings that are not for the general public.

10. I will meet new individuals on campus and broaden my friendships so I can truly represent my peers.

11. I will listen when others are talking and will practice good communication skills during practice, meetings, (and hopefully beyond...) so that we may accomplish as much as possible with few distractions.

12. I will not argue for argument sake. If I have a real problem with something, or someone, I will speak up!

13. I will make sure I take responsibility to be aware of meeting times, practices, activities, etc. Part of this responsibility includes checking my email and/or the Mount Si Debate Facebook for updates, changes, additions and cancellations daily. If I am unsure of what time to arrive, what to wear, etc., I will contact another debater, not the coach, for clarification.

**STEPS TO COMPLETE REGISTRATION:**

1. Read and sign this contract,

2. Return both page 8 and 9 of this contract to Coach King

3. Parent must also complete the online registration

4. Pay the club fee
Acknowledgement and acceptance of the Mount Si
Speech and Debate Program 2017-2018

Student Name: ______________________________________________________________

I have attended a meeting where the rules were explained and have read through the Program
Guide. I’ve spoken with the coach/my parents about any concerns I may have related to the terms of this
agreement. I agree to abide by all terms/conditions previously described for the duration of the 2015-2016
debate season.

_________________________  ______________________
Signature                      Date

Parent/Guardian Name: __________________________________________________________

I have attended a meeting where the rules were explained and have read through the Program Guide. I
have discussed any concerns/questions with my child and the coach. I agree to support all of the
terms/conditions set forth by these terms and guidelines.

_________________________  ______________________
Signature                      Date

If you have any questions regarding the Mount Si Debate Program, please contact Chelsea King
to discuss the circumstances directly.

Chelsea King
kingee@svsd410.org
(206) 375 6861

***THIS AGREEMENT MUST BE SIGNED AND TURNED IN WITH ALL REQUIRED PAPERWORK.***
MOUNT SI HIGH SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION FORM

Name of Athlete

Sport

Mount Si High School provides one-way transportation for high school student-athletes to away contests. Parent carpools may be needed to transport students home afterwards. Please indicate whom you will allow to drive your student home, your availability to drive others, and information about your vehicle.

Please initial ALL that apply and sign below.

- Yes, I can provide transportation for the following number of students_______ and have provided my vehicle information below.

- No, I will not be able to provide transportation and will need assistance providing transportation for my student.

- I give my permission for my student to ride home with the following adults (please list):

  Name: ________________________________
  Name: ________________________________
  Name: ________________________________

- I give my permission for my student to ride home with ANY parent(s) available to provide transportation.

  ____________________  ____________________  ____________________
  (Signature)  (Date)  

Automobile information:

Notice: By signing below, I certify that:

- I have automobile liability insurance and understand that such insurance is primary before any other collectible insurance.
- My vehicle is in safe operating condition, is equipped with seat belts that will be used by each passenger, and that I drive in a safe manner and in accordance with state laws.

Registered Owner: ________________________________
Address: ________________________________
City: ________________________________ State: _____ Zip: __________

Vehicle License # ________________________________ State: __________

Driver License # ________________________________ Expires __________

Insurance Company: ________________________________ Agent
Limits of Coverage: ________________________________

  ____________________  ____________________
  (Signature)  (Date)