Atchison County Community Junior Senior High School 908 Tiger Rd. PO Box 289 Effingham, KS 66023 913-833-2240 913-833-5210(fax)

Dear Fellow NEK League Coach,

You and your team are invited to the 2021 NEK League Forensics tournament. Due to the current attendance restrictions in place due to COVID-19, the tournament will be held remotely, utilizing Tabroom and Zoom. Please note - this is a closed tournament, for league schools only.

The official date of the tournament is February 11, and the live (synchronous) portion of the tournament will take place this date. Asynchronous preliminary rounds will take place for all events not classified as limited preparation, with judging of those events occurring from Feb. 8 - 10. Final entry numbers are due by Feb. 1 at 5:00 p.m. Entry videos for prelim, non-limited prep events are due by Feb. 5 at 5:00 p.m.

I am still in the process of setting up the tournament in Tabroom, and will send out the invitation link soon. In the meantime, please give me a preliminary indication of entry numbers on the <u>Google Spreadsheet</u> so I may begin scheduling judges.

We will offer the following events: Extemp, Oration, Informative, Prose, Poetry, POI, Serious Solo Acting, Humorous Solo Acting, Duet Acting, Improvised Duet Acting, and Impromptu. Students may enter two events, but no student may enter both Extemp and IDA. Each school may enter up to four entries per event. All KSHSAA rules will be followed, except foreign and domestic extemporaneous topics will be mixed in one draw.

There will be three preliminary rounds. Asynchronous preliminary rounds will use recorded videos. Videos can not use professional backgrounds, greenscreens, editing, etc. Each entry MUST include the following spoken statement (or something similar) at the beginning: "This is for the NEK League tournament." Video links will be added along with entries on Tabroom. Prelims will be judged during the week, with finals announced on Thursday morning.

Synchronous (live) preliminary rounds will take place Thursday 2/11 in the morning using Zoom meetings and breakout sessions.

Final rounds will be held for each event that has more than one room of competition. Finals will be cut-throat. Finals will be live on Zoom on Thursday 2/11 in the afternoon. Medals will be awarded to the top three places in each event. Sweepstakes will be based on the top two entries per event per school, and calculated on a 5-point scale. Plagues will be awarded for the top schools.

If you know anyone interested in serving as a judge, either for the asynchronous or synchronous portion of the tournament, please let me know so I may reach out to them.

Please let me know what questions you have - this is all new and different (and a bit scary!) to me, and I'm sure I'm forgetting important details!

Thanks much for your input, and help! Noelle Walters