

Invitation

Hello CFISD Speech & Debate coaches,

There will be a Novice Night on **Thursday, May 11th, at Cypress Park High School, 7425 Westgreen Blvd, Cypress TX 77443**

This is a great opportunity for your beginning students to practice their skills in a low-pressure environment and to receive feedback on their efforts. It is also a wonderful chance for your varsity members to gain valuable experience as judges.

For novice nights to remain viable, it is imperative that the workload be reduced on teachers volunteering to host. To that end, we are using [Tabroom](#) to register participants and create pairings. **You need to enter your students no later than 4 p.m. on Tues., May 9th. After this deadline, adding students may not be possible.** It is VERY important that you meet this deadline so that our hosting coach can organize and communicate with campus administration regarding room use. The continuation of these events depends on respecting host schools, and a vital piece of that is providing timely entry information.

You may drop students or make name substitutions through this website until 4 p.m. on Tues., May 9th. The website will be closed to changes after this time. This is for drops and substitutions only, not adding new entries.

Students may enter one of the following events (schedule doesn't allow for cross-entry):

- Lincoln-Douglas Debate
- Public Forum Debate
- Congressional Debate
- Extemporaneous Speaking
- Oratory/Informative (combined)
- Prose/Poetry (combined)
- Humorous/Dramatic/POI (combined)
- Duo/Duet (combined – the goal is to keep this as a separate category, but if numbers are low, these students may be joined with HI/DI, putting all memorized oral interp together)

In addition to entering your novice students, please register your varsity students in tabroom under judges and select if they would prefer to be a debate or IE judge. Please be sure to train your varsity students on constructive criticism and discuss with them what it means to be role models for the younger participants. The spirit of this evening should be to encourage novices in speech & debate while providing supportive feedback on how they can improve.

There will be a concession stand available for students to purchase food or drinks. We will offer chips, candy, water, soda and pizza. Hospitality will be made available for all coaches.

If you have questions, please contact Ryan Hennessey, at ryan.hennessey@cfisd.net.

Topics

Congressional Debate will use the legislation from the current TFA Docket that is available here. These will be the specific bills/resolutions debated:

- 2023 Spring Legislation

Congress Legislation for Novice Night:

Item 7 - A Bill to Diminish the Influence of Partisanship on the Supreme Court

Item 10 - A Bill to Create Benefits for Teachers to Combat the Teacher Shortage

Item 14 - A Resolution to Clarify Church Audit Procedures to Protect Church Donors

Item 19 - A Bill to End Book Bans in Public Schools

Item 27 - A Bill to Eliminate Fees for Public School Lunches L.U.N.C.H. Act of 2023 (Let Under-Nourished Children Have Lunch Act)

Lincoln-Douglas Debate will use the 2023 March/April Topic

Resolved: The justices of the Supreme Court of the United States ought to be term-limited.

Public Forum Debate will use the 2023 April Topic: **Resolved: The United States Federal Government should ban the collection of personal data through biometric recognition technology.**

Campus Info

Dear Coaches,

1. Students should **NOT** be on the first floor once rounds start and should not wander around the building. There will be designated areas on the second floor and third floor where they are to go in between rounds.
2. Postings will all be on tabroom, IE Rounds will be on the 2nd floor. Debate Rounds will be on the 3rd floor. The concession stand will be on the 3rd floor.
3. No food or drinks should be in the classrooms.
4. If students must move desks please put them back in their original position when the round is finished.
5. It is expected that students are in rounds and not hanging out in the halls.
6. Students are not allowed to shut the lock-down curtains. They should remain open at all times.
7. **NO** Student should not sit at or behind the teacher's desk. Please remind your students to be respectful of the classrooms they are in and ask them to not disturb anything that does not belong to them.

Fees

Each school will be charged a flat fee of \$100 to cover the expenses of the host campus. There are no other costs for participating. However, it is important that schools provide varsity students to help judge and run key parts of the tournament.

All CFISD schools should work with their campus financial secretaries to pay through a budget transfer. **The budget code should be printed at the bottom of your tabroom fee sheet. Please pay ASAP.**

Also, please register your varsity students in tabroom under judges and select if they would prefer to be a debate judge or an IE judge.

Last but not least, please be sure to train your varsity students on constructive criticism and discuss with them what it means to be role models for the younger participants. The spirit of this evening should be to encourage novices in speech & debate while providing supportive feedback on how they can improve.

Thank you!

Schedule

CFISD Novice Night Schedule : If you and your students plan to arrive before 2:00 PM on Thursday, please let me know. I will be sending out more campus information later, along with campus maps via email.

2-3 p.m.	If you have any last minute drops/substitutions on the day of the tournament, please communicate them by this time (earlier is better). Early notice on debate drops is especially important as changing pairings in LD & PF is more complicated than in IEs. You can text or email drops/subs to RH at 832-613-5019.
4-5 p.m.	Round 1: All I.E.'s, PF, and LD Extemp Draw 4:00 Round 4:30-5:15
5:15-6:15 p.m.	Round 2: All I.E.'s, PF, and LD Extemp Draw 5:15 Round 5:45-6:30
6:30-7:30 p.m.	Round 3: All I.E.'s, PF, and LD Extemp Draw 6:30 Round 7:00-
4-5:15 p.m.	Congress: Session 1
5:45-7 p.m.	Congress: Session 2