

February 1, 2025

Dear Colleagues:

The District 1 state qualifying tournament of the Pennsylvania High School Speech League will be held **on Saturday, February 22, 2025 at Pine-Richland High School, Gibsonia, PA.** We cordially invite you and your team to participate in what we hope and expect will be a **LIVE/IN-PERSON** event which qualifies students to compete in the P.H.S.S.L. State Tournament, scheduled for Friday & Saturday, March 21-22, 2025 on the campus of Bloomsburg University, Bloomsburg, PA.

For the fourth time, four P.H.S.S.L. districts in western Pennsylvania...1, 2, 3, and 16...will convene, this year at Pine-Richland High School... on February 22nd to hold their qualifying events. Of course, there will be four district tournaments taking place at Pine-Richland on February 22nd, but these districts will provide one large judging pool that will enhance flexibility in scheduling judges throughout the day.

****REGISTRATION:** Please note that registration is being taken on-line only on Tabroom.com. Registration will be conducted on a combined webpage for Districts 1, 2, 3, and 16..."*PHSSL District Qualifiers 1, 2, 3, & 16*" on the Tabroom.com website. Tournament registration is now open and will close at 5 p.m. on Wednesday February 19th. There will be no adds after that time. When registering, **be sure to register your students in their event in District 1, and your judges must be registered in the District 1 pool of judges.**

In addition, make certain that all of your tournament judges and student entries have tabroom.com accounts and that judges have a smart phone, a tablet, or a laptop for judging on February 22nd.

Remember, the deadline for online submission of all entries is 5 p.m. on Wednesday, February 19th.

Registration will begin at 7:45 AM on February 22nd and will conclude at 8:30. There will be three rounds of competition in all District 1 speech events with final rounds scheduled in events with eight (8) or more actual participants.

Here are other specific tournament details, times, quotas...

Events offered: Informative, Persuasive, Extemporaneous, Commentary, Prose, Poetry, Dramatic Interp, Humorous Interp, Duo Interp, Programmed Oral Interp, Policy Debate, Lincoln-Douglas Debate, Public Forum Debate, Parliamentary Debate, and competitive Senate.

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REMINDERS: --Informative & Persuasive time limits are ten (10) minutes; Commentary time limit is 5 minutes. Extemp time is 7 minutes. All other speech events have 10-minute maximum times.

--Note that entries in each event are limited to 2 entries per school (including the Senate), unless a student auto-qualified by earning 3 or more bids to the state tournament during the season. In that case, your school may register two additional entries in that event.

--In the Senate two students will automatically advance to the state tournament as in all other events. If you wish to enter students in the district Senate, you must submit legislation to Mr. Robert Hall, District 1 Co-Chair, NO LATER THAN Wednesday, February 12th

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--Please note that this legislation can be the same one that you have submitted for the P.H.S.S.L. state Student Congress. Email this legislation in the accepted format to Bob Hall at this address... hallr@fairviewschools.org.

IMPORTANT SENATE NOTE: The procedures for Plan A (with eight participants or fewer) changed several years ago.

Coaches...please review the PHSSL District Standing Rules in Student Congress for clarification.

--Beginning with the 2019-20 academic year, state qualification ratios were changed. At least two contestants in each event shall qualify for the State Tournament. If there are 10-20 contestants, a third contestant qualifies to the State Tournament; if 21 or more contestants compete, a fourth contestant qualifies to the State Tournament.

--Be aware that P.H.S.S.L. rules require that copies (preferably typed) of all Informative and Persuasive speeches, complete with a title page signed by the coach and student declaring it is an original speech, must be either mailed to or delivered to the district chairman before the start of competition on February 22nd. In addition, a bibliography for each speech must be submitted to the District Chairman prior to Round 1 the day of the tournament.

****ALL RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR EACH EVENT ARE OUTLINED IN THE REVISED P.H.S.S.L. BYLAWS AND ON ALL BALLOTS. A LINK TO ALL BALLOTS AND REGISTRATION FORMS FOR THE DISTRICT TOURNAMENT CAN BE FOUND ON LINE AT phssl.org/docs AND CLICK ON DOCS.****

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TOURNAMENT TIME SCHEDULE:

We will do our best to try and run this tournament on time. To help us, please make sure you are on time! **CHECK IN AT OUR REGISTRATION TABLE IN THE PINE-RICHLAND HS LOBBY BETWEEN 7:30 and 8:15 a.m. ON FEBRUARY 22nd SO WE KNOW EVERYONE IS PRESENT AND READY TO COMPETE/JUDGE.**

8:30 AM...Registration ends

8:30.....Extemp & Commentary Draw and Students'/Judges' Meetings

9:00.....Round 1- all events

10:15.....Round 2

11:15.....Round 3

12:00 NOON...Break (lunch)

1:00-1:15 PM...Finals postings

1:30.....Final Rounds

NOTE: Times for Senate and debate events may vary from the speech schedule.

3:15.....Awards Assembly (location- to be announced)

JUDGING QUOTAS (Senate judges are considered part of the Speech pool.)
(*Note specific quotas!*)

****Speech & Senate-** 1 judge for 1-3 contestants or fraction thereof

2 judges for 4-6 contestants

3 judges for 7-9 contestants

4 judges- 10-12 contestants

5 judges- 13-15 “

6 judges- 16-18 “

7 judges- 19-21 “

****Debate Events**

****Public Forum-** 1 judge per entry

****Lincoln-Douglas Debate-** 1 judge for 1-2 contestants

****Policy Debate-** 1 judge for 1 or 2 teams

****Parliamentary Debate-** same quota as Policy Debate

NOTE: Public Forum judges no longer come from the speech pool.

Public Forum should be judged by debate judges.

Remember that registration for this district tournament will be done on tabroom.com. Only qualified and experienced judges are to be included in your entry. This year District 1 judges will judge students from Districts 2, 3 and 16 and vice versa.

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The entry fee is \$50.00 per school or \$5.00 per contestant, whichever is greater. Make all checks payable to: Hugh P. Ringer. We ask that all entry fees be paid in full before registration the day of the tournament.

****PLEASE NOTE: Because the district operates on a tight budget each year, and based on standard procedure at most awards tournaments, there will be no refunds given for any drops made after the Wednesday, February 19th 5:00 p.m. registration deadline.****

If you need to contact Hugh Ringer at home with questions or drops in registration, his contact numbers are as follows...724-699-2390 (cell), 724-662-3094 (home phone), and his email address is hpr@zoominternet.net. In the event that you have changes or an emergency the day of the tournament (02/22/2025), call Hugh's cell phone from 6:30 AM-8:45 AM...724-699-2390.

****PLEASE DO NOT CALL MERCER HIGH SCHOOL WITH QUESTIONS!!****

As you know, Bob Hall, the coach at Fairview High School, is again serving as District 1 co-chair. Feel free to contact Bob as well with tournament-related questions at his email address...hallr@fairviewschools.org. On the day of the tournament, Bob can be reached on his cell...814-392-4524.

PLEASE NOTE: If any head coaches from District 1 member schools are interested in either serving as District 1 chairman or as a member of the District 1 committee for the 2025-2026 school year, please submit a letter of interest to Hugh Ringer and/or Bob Hall.

We look forward to your participation at the District 1 tournament on February 22nd!

Sincerely,

Hugh Ringer & Bob Hall
District 1 Co-Chairmen

SEE IMPORTANT REMINDERS, NEXT PAGE>>>

****IMPORTANT PHSSL DISTRICT 1 TOURNAMENT DATES...**b>**

--Tuesday, February 4, 2025...Online tournament registration begins on tabroom.com. Be sure to register your students as District 1 participants and place your judges in the District 1 pool.

--Wednesday, February 12, 2025...Deadline for submission of Senate legislation to Bob Hall, District 1 co-chairman...hallr@fairviewschools.org

--5 p.m. on Wednesday, February 19, 2025...Deadline for online submission of your complete District 1 Tournament entry on tabroom.com. No refunds on drops will be made after this date & time.

--Payment of all entry fees and submission of Informative and Persuasive speech texts, title pages, and bibliographies must be submitted to Hugh Ringer, District 1 Co-Chair, before the start of the district tournament on February 22, 2025.

A reminder to all head coaches...In case you have not heard, a new non-qualifying PHSSL event was added in the 2023-24 school year...Storytelling. PHSSL now offers five (5) state-only events...Student Congress, Impromptu Speaking, News Broadcasting (a 2-person event), Storytelling, and Extemporaneous Debate. Each PHSSL school is permitted one (1) entry in each of these events. Please refer to the PHSSL By-Laws for event descriptions of these and all other PHSSL events.