

# 2017 Speech Festival Information Packet



## IMPORTANT DATES

- Intent to Participate Form: Due December 2, 2016
- Names & Registration Fees: Due December 16, 2016
  - Elementary School Competition – Grade 4 – January 18, 2017 – 8:30 am
  - Grade 5 – January 23, 2017 – 8:30 am
  - Middle School Competition – Grades 6, 7 & 8 — January 25, 2017 – 8:30 am
- AWARDS CEREMONY – Wednesday, February 8, 2017 – 6:30pm



**TO: Superintendents, Principals, & Teachers of grades 4-8**

**FROM: Stacie Arancibia, Events Planner**

**SUBJECT: 2017 Speech Festival**

The Merced County Office of Education Speech Contest for grade 4 will be held on Wednesday, January 18, 2017 and grade 5 will be held on Monday, January 23, 2017. Grades 6, 7 and 8, will be held on Wednesday, January 25, 2017 at the Merced County Office of Education Complex (Room assignments subject to change).

- **Students in grade 4** will meet on **Wednesday, January 18, 2017.**
  - Grade 4 will be in Clark/Newbold Conference Room
- **Registration: 8:30 a.m. – 8:45 a.m. Competition begins at 9:00 a.m.**
  
- **Students in grade 5** will meet on **Monday, January 23, 2017.**
  - Grade 5 will be in Clark/Newbold Conference Room

**Registration: 8:30 a.m. – 8:45 a.m. Competition begins at 9:00 a.m.**



- **Students in grades 6, 7 and 8** will meet on **Friday, January 25, 2017.**
  - Grade 6 will be in Clark/Newbold Conference Room
  - Grade 7 will be in M Conference Room
  - Grade 8 will be in J-2 Conference Room
- **Registration: 8:30 a.m. – 8:45 a.m. Competition begins at 9:00 a.m.**

There is a **fee of \$30.00 for each competition per school.**

The intent to participate is due December 2, 2016. The \$30 fee and participant names must be received by December 16, 2016. Fees may be paid by check, fund transfer or Purchase Order (Inter-district transfers will be made from Purchase Orders).

The Awards Ceremony is scheduled for Wednesday, February 8, 2017 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Merced County Office of Education, Clark and Newbold Conference Rooms. Schools will be notified by email of the Speech Contest results by dismissal of school on Monday, January 30, 2017. It is the responsibility of the school to notify winning students and their parents of the awards ceremony.

MERCED COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION  
2017 SPEECH CONTEST RULES

**THE CONTEST**

1. The contest is open to students in grades 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8. A fee of \$30 will be charged for each Festival competition. (Elementary and Middle School)
2. The 2017 Speech Topics will be posted to the website in September 2016.
3. Students are to write their responses as part of the classroom-writing program. The responses must be the original work of the student contestants.
4. The written responses will be presented orally, as a speech.
5. Students will know the judging criteria and will use the criteria as guidelines for preparation and practice of their speeches. (See the Judging Score Sheet)
6. Each school will be responsible for classroom judging and winner selection. School competition winners will be eligible to compete at the county level.
7. First, second and third place school winners will be selected at the school site for each grade level of the competition. Each school may send **3 students from each grade level**, to each competition Elementary and Middle School.
8. School competition and county competition will use judges from the Merced County Office of Education and the community.
9. All speeches will be given in English.

Speech Awards Ceremony  
Wednesday, February 8, 2017  
MCOE Complex – Clark/Newbold  
6:30 p.m.– 7:30 p.m.

## **Speech Guidelines**

### Length Requirement

Grade 4	250 – 500 words
Grade 5	500 – 700 words
Grade 6	500 – 700 words
Grade 7	500 – 700 words
Grade 8	500 – 700 words

California Reading/Language Arts Framework; Grades 4 – 8 Writing Applications 2.1 and Speaking Applications 2.1. (Refer to specific grade level standards for writing and speaking guidelines.)

### **Suggested Organization**

#### **Beginning**

Write a fictional, autobiographical, or biographical narrative story. Relate a clear, coherent incident, event, or situation by using well-chosen details about the setting and character or characters.

#### **Middle**

Develop the plot line with the conflict, rising action, and climax occurring during the middle of the narrative.

#### **End**

Describe the resolution and write a conclusion to the story.

### **THE SPEECH**

1. Each participant may choose a way to deliver the speech: reading the written response notes, or not using notes.
2. Small props are optional, and will not count in scoring. (Props may include eyeglasses, hat, cane, etc.)
3. The oral delivery of each speech should be 2–8 minutes in length.
4. Each speech will be judged on Development – 40 points; Effectiveness – 30 points; and Delivery – 50 points for a total of 120 points possible. See the Judging Score Sheet for specific criteria.

## **JUDGING**

1. Classroom judging may be done by teacher or other school personnel.
2. Choose two to five judges for school competition. Community members who have been active in school or other youth activities are good potential judges.
3. Give judges time to become familiar with judging forms and criteria.
4. Allow enough time after each presentation for judges to confer and make decisions.
5. A Sample Judging Score Sheet is included for your information and use.

## **THE PRIZES**

1. All schools will be emailed notice of the county winners by dismissal of school on Monday, January 30, 2017.
2. Each contestant at the county level will receive a participation certificate the day of the contest.
3. First, second and third place trophies will be awarded at each grade level (15 trophies total) at the Awards Ceremony on Wednesday, February 8, 2017 in the Clark/Newbold Conference Room at the MCOE complex, 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
4. At each grade level Honorable Mention certificates will be given for fourth through eighth places. Certificates will not be identified by place, only as an Honorable Mention.

## **THE AWARDS CEREMONY**

The 2016-2017 MCOE Speech Festival Awards Ceremony is scheduled for:

Date: Wednesday, February 8, 2017

Time: 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Place: Merced County Office of Education • 632 West 13th Street • Merced, CA 95341  
Clark/Newbold Conference Rooms.

Everyone is invited:

- Student Winners through thirteenth place at each grade level
- Parents, other family members and friends
- Teachers
- Principals and other school or district personnel
- Board Members

Note: First Place Winners will be invited to give their speeches during the Awards Ceremony.

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<b>CRITERIA FOR JUDGING</b>	<b>PTS. POSSIBLE</b>	<b>PTS. EARNED</b>
<b><u>SPEECH DEVELOPMENT (40 points possible)</u></b>		
Is the speech organized?	10	_____
Does the body of the speech support and enhance topic?	10	_____
Does the speech have an appropriate opening?	10	_____
Does the speech have an appropriate closing?	10	_____
<b><u>EFFECTIVENESS (30 points possible)</u></b>		
Does the speech achieve its purpose?	10	_____
Is the speech interesting?	10	_____
Does the speech stay on topic?	10	_____
<b><u>DELIVERY (50 points possible)</u></b>		
Composure - Demonstrates poise and self-confidence.	10	_____
Body control - Uses gestures and facial expressions to engage the audience and enhance meaning.	10	_____
Rapport - Makes eye contact with audience.	10	_____
Voice - Uses volume, pitch, modulation and intonation, to express ideas clearly and enhance meaning.	10	_____
Language control - Uses clarity of speech and effective phrasing, pacing and tone.	10	_____

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**TOTAL POINTS:**                      **120 Total Points Possible**                      **EARNED:**

GRADE LEVEL: \_\_\_\_\_ JUDGE'S INITIAL: \_\_\_\_\_