

MAGNOLIA WEST HIGH SCHOOL

The WDS Western Invitational

GENERAL INFORMATION

The West Debate Society invites you to our Speech and Debate invitational meet on **Jan. 30-31** at Magnolia West High School

Location. 42202 FM 1774, Magnolia, TX 77354

Arrival & Parking. Please see the map attached [here](#). If driving a bus, please drop off students at the front entrance and park in the lot indicated. Students will enter the front of the school and head to the cafeteria for the holding area.

Events. We will offer all UIL Speech and Debate events, except Congress and CX debate. LD begins on Friday and all other events will be held on Saturday.

Materials. We will be using the following materials:

★ **Debate & Interp Topics:** 25-26 Oral Interpretation categories & UIL Spring LD topic

Judging. Schools with speech entries must either provide a qualified and experienced judge for ALL rounds (including FINALS) or pay a \$150 fee for each judge owed. Schools will be required to provide a judge for every 3 debate entries, and every 3 speech entries. School judges must be present THIRTY minutes prior to each round (unless they are currently judging) in order to ensure that the tournament runs on time. If a school judge is not present for judge call – they will have to pay a judge fee of \$150 in order to cover judging for their absence. All judges will be listed on postings. **We prefer your judges over your money!**

We will be using SpeechWire for tabulation. Judges will need an electronic device they can type on for online ballots.

Hospitality. Food will be provided for coaches, judges and bus drivers, including dinner Friday night as well as breakfast and lunch on Saturday. Concessions for students will be sold in the cafeteria.

Tabroom. Tabulation will be conducted in the Library.

Student Behavior. All competitors and visitors are held to the standards of conduct with Magnolia Independent School District. A coach (or other teacher) from every school, or a parent must be on campus at all times while students from said school are present. Failure to comply with these guidelines may result in forfeiting the school from competition. **Academic, debate & speech competitors** should be mindful of tournament etiquette by remaining silent in competition hallways. Disruptive behavior may result in disqualification or dismissal from the tournament at the tournament director's discretion without refund.

TOURNAMENT FEES

Payment of Fees. Schools should bring a check payable to the following below to cover all fees. If you are not able to have a check prepared in time, please have proof of payment and leave a copy with the registration table. All accounts must be paid in full within 30 days. All delinquent accounts are subject to a \$100 fee.

Make Checks payable to:

Magnolia West HS
42202 FM 1774
Magnolia, TX 77354
ATTN: Speech and Debate

ALL ENTRIES ARE DUE BY JANUARY 23

- ★ **Extemp & Interp Events** \$15 per entry
- ★ **LD Debate** \$20 per entry
- ★ **Speech judging fees** \$150 per uncovered obligation (see above for details)

Once your school is entered, you are obligated for all fees. Drops made after 4 p.m. on January 23rd will result in loss of entry fee. Speech no-shows and drops made on the day of the contest will result in double entry fees.

EVENT INFORMATION

Entries. There are unlimited entries in all events except LD. LD is limited to 4 entries per school. We will close entries when we reach room capacity. Students may enter as many events as they choose except that they cannot enter both Poetry and Prose or Persuasive and Informative—one or the other. Cross enter at your own risk! We MAY open the wait list after registration closes, depending on our confirmed judges.

Prose and Poetry: UIL rules will apply. Documentation checks will not be required; however, students can have their documentation checked for educational purposes. Students must be prepared to present documentation in the event of a dispute. After verification of results, no documentation challenges will be heard. The category for preliminary rounds is Category A; Semifinals is Category B; Finals is reader's choice.

LD Debate: The current UIL topic will be used. Please see the UIL website to get the current topic. Prelims will be flighted in the event of a judge shortage. All rounds are pre-set using SpeechWire. We break to quarterfinals regardless of the size of the field (assuming it is larger than 8) in order to get students as many rounds as possible. We will break brackets.

Speech & Debate Drop Fees. Please expect your school to be billed for the fees should you violate the deadlines for dropping students. Let us know of drops proactively to prevent any tournament delays. We will not charge for substitutions as long as the original number of people entered does not change in the event.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us. See you at the end of January!

Cyndee Farra
UIL Academic Coordinator
cfarra@magnoliaisd.org

Taylor Daniel
West Debate Society Advisor
tdaniel@magnoliaisd.org

Kaylee Rusnak
West Debate Society Co-Advisor
krusnak@magnoliaisd.org