

# GIVE YOUR STUDENTS AN ADVANTAGE WITH **SPEECH AND DEBATE!**



As the largest interscholastic speech and debate organization in the world, the National Speech & Debate Association believes in the power of speech and debate to empower students and impact school environments. Over 3,000 schools around the country are utilizing the support, inspiration, and connections offered by NSDA membership. Here are just a few of the ways we can help you and your school.

## WE ARE TRANSFORMING STUDENTS AND SCHOOLS

The benefits of NSDA membership for schools extend far beyond competition. Speech and debate builds confidence, spurs creativity, encourages collaboration, improves communication, and increases critical thinking skills to prepare students for the workplace. Plus, administrators at schools with NSDA memberships report a positive impact on school culture, student attitudes, and academic performance.

**FIG. 1 – DEBATE AND ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE**

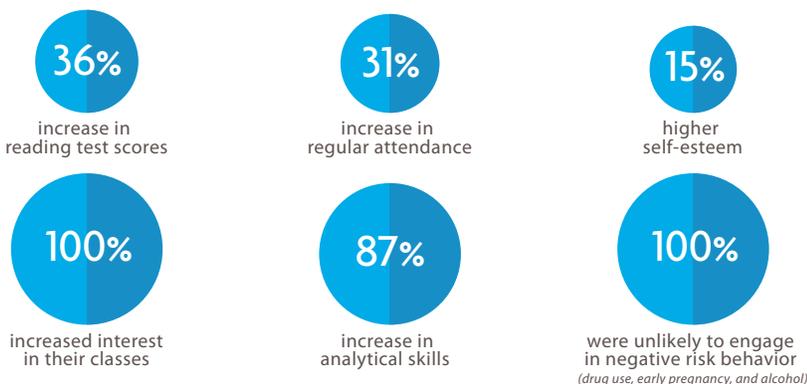


Fig 1. Source: Snider, A. C. & Lawrence, E. W. (2011). DEBATE: Important for Everyone. Retrieved from <https://debate.uvm.edu/dcpdf/DEBATE-%20Important%20for%20Everyone.pdf>.



As a result of the ‘speech and debate attitude,’ dual credits increased 800%, ACT scores increased an average of three points, and scholarship dollars offered doubled in three years.”

– Douglas Wine  
Principal,  
Holy Ghost Catholic School,  
New Mexico



At an age when bullying is so common, **speech and debate celebrates kids who often fall through the cracks in more traditional settings.**”

– Robyn Kaiyal  
Associate Headmaster for  
Academics,  
NSU University School, Florida

FIG. 2 – DEBATERS AND LIFE AFTER GRADUATION



**WE ARE PROVIDING THE SUPPORT YOU NEED TO SUCCEED**

Each event in speech and debate features a different form of public speaking and requires a unique skill set. NSDA membership provides an extensive array of exclusive benefits to support coaches and students as they explore each event and hone their skills, including tournament opportunities, research guides, textbooks, lesson plans, practice drills, performance videos, webinars, professional development for coaches, scholarship opportunities for students, and more.

FIG. 3 – HONOR SOCIETY PARTICIPATION



**WE ARE AN INCREDIBLE HONOR SOCIETY**

Only NSDA student members have the unique benefit of earning points and degrees in our Honor Society for the skills they learn and the service activities they perform! Honor Society recognition rewards students for their progress and provides motivation to continue building their skills. Last year, members earned over 100,000 individual degrees and awards celebrating their competitive success, academic achievement, and service activities.

When your school joins the National Speech & Debate Association, you join more than 1.5 million students, alumni, coaches, teachers, and supporters. Become a member today to see what the NSDA can do for your school!



Speech and debate participants do better academically across the board. They become engaged, active participants in their education and in their community. Our school has seen great improvements in student culture and spirit since we started our program, and I would highly recommend joining the NSDA to any administrator looking to make a positive impact on school culture and academic performance.”

– Errol A. Evans

Principal,  
Attucks Middle School, Florida

Fig. 2 Source: Minch, K. & Summers, K. (2006). Value of Speech, Debate and Theatre Activities: Making the Case for Forensics. Retrieved from <https://www.speechanddebate.org/wp-content/uploads/Making-The-Case-NFHS.pdf>. Person icon by Alice Design from the Noun Project.



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