

Dear Colleagues,

Countless lessons have been reinforced during this challenging period. On the world stage, we have witnessed debates and speeches that have had multi-generational impact: challenging our values, unsettling our institutions, and saving and endangering lives.

This recent past reveals that both an exponential rate of change and an unprecedented need for leadership are future certainties. Speech and debate activities promote countless attributes in service of that future, including teamwork, factual and impactful communication skills, respect, purpose, research, and the ability to generate a peak performance under pressure.

Our students learn the most vital leadership quality through the loving devotion of our coaches. Thank you to all speech and debate coaches for inspiring future leaders who are equipped and compassionate.

Yours in education,

Tammy Ferguson

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www.speechanddebate.org/advocacy