

October 2, 2017

Dear Coaches,

Shepherd High School and Billings Public High Schools cordially invite your team to the 2017 Eastern Montana Kickoff Speech, Debate, and Drama Tournament to be held at West High School on November 4, 2017.

Pre-Registration: *DUE OCTOBER 20* Please pre-register by completing the [Google Doc Form](#). Even if you do not plan to attend, please fill out the first questions (yes or no). If you fail to pre-register you will not be able to attend. This information is non-binding but very helpful.

Registration & Fees: All registration should be complete by October 27 and will take place online. The registration link will be sent after pre registration is complete. A fee of \$4 will be charged per slot (i.e. team debate is \$8). Changes can be made to that registration until *November 2 at 4pm* with no extra charge. Any drops or adds after that should be emailed to nurrem@billingssschools.org and will incur an \$8 fee.

There will not be on-site registration. A roster of students with school codes will be sent out Friday. Coaches are responsible for checking this list and making sure it is correct. Please email corrections as indicated above. Last minute changes may be texted or called in to Kerry Gruizenga at 406-850-3697 before 7am.

MHSA Rules: For speech and debate, MHSA AA rules will apply. For drama and SPOI, B/C rules apply with noted exceptions. Double entries will be allowed. Please note that judge restrictions may be lifted if needed. **ALL EVENTS WILL FOLLOW THE NEW ALL CLASS TIMING PROCEDURES; PLEASE REVIEW THESE RULES WITH YOUR COMPETITORS.**

We encourage all coaches to review MHSA approved changes in the rulebook as this meet will be the first one with many changes: cell phones, timing, etc.

Policy Resolution:

Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially increase its funding and/or regulation of elementary and/or secondary education in the United States.

Public Forum topic: Resolved: The United States should require universal background checks for all gun sales and transfer of ownership.

LD Resolution: Resolved: In the United States, national service ought to be compulsory.

Legi Debate: Foreign: Tibetan Climate Change Domestic: Immigration

Note: If legislative debate has less than five competitors, we will not hold it due to the nature of the debate.

Food: Concessions will be available for competitors throughout the day. Lunch will be provided for coaches in the tab room.

Judging: If you know of people in the Billings area who could/would judge speech or debate, have them sign up at [Speech Judges](#) If you know people to judge drama, the link is [Drama Judges](#)

Awards: Trophies will be given to winning teams in each class. There will be awards for all event champions too! Please follow entry rules for your class in order to keep things fair in the sweeps. If you have additional entries in a specific event, please contact Myra (nurrem@billingsschools.org) for more information.

Schedule:

8:00 debate R1, extemp draw

8:30 speech/drama R1

10:00 debate R2, extemp draw

10:30 speech/drama R2

12:00 extemp draw

12:30 debate/speech/drama R3

2:00 extemp draw (finals)

2:30 all finals

4:30 or 5:00 awards

*In the final rounds of debate we will feature #1 versus #2 and #3 versus #4. Speech and drama finals will feature the top 8.

We can't wait to see you and try this really fabulous endeavor on the Eastern side of the state once again.

The coaches from Shepherd, Senior, Skyview, and West!