

# Providence Grammar School – Speech Meet

## GUIDELINES FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS:

1. Before the students say their piece they will introduce themselves ("Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I will be reciting \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_" .), state the title, and the author's name, if known. After the speech they will restate the title, and author. For the Bible category students should state the reference and translation.
2. All presentations must be memorized (notes are not permitted).
3. Students may not present a selection they have done in a past Speech Meet.
4. Clothing should in no way be related to the selection, so as to be misconstrued as costuming. Costumes and/or props are not permitted in any of the categories.
5. Students should dress nicely and present their pieces formally and thoughtfully.
6. Decisions of the judges are final.
7. Picture-taking and/or camcorders are not permitted during student presentations.

## CATEGORIES:

1. Poetry (grades 1 - 6)
2. Bible (grades 1 - 6) Scripture passages must come from one of the following translations:  
KJV, NKJV, NAS, NIV
3. Fable & Folklore (grades 2 - 4)
4. Historic or Literary Oration (grades 5 - 6)

**LENGTH OF PIECE:** The length requirements below are provided to establish an approximate length. Some selections may have very short lines and therefore more would be required, other selections may have longer lines and in that case fewer would be required. These judgment calls will be made by the teacher on a case by case basis.

	Poetry	Bible
1 <sup>st</sup> Grade	10+ lines	5+ verses
2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade	15+ lines	8+ verses
3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	15+ lines	8+ verses
4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	20+ lines	10+ verses
5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	25+ lines	10+ verses
6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	30+ lines	12+ verses

## SELECTION GUIDELINES:

**Poetry:** Silly, crude, or trite poems are not what we are looking for. For this reason we discourage students from selecting poems of the Shel Silverstein variety.

**Fable & Folklore:** These pieces are to be unrhymed prose.

**Historic or Literary Oration:** This category is designed to include historic speeches and classical literary excerpts. Examples:

-*Give me Liberty or Give Me Death* by Patrick Henry  
-Inaugural Address by Jefferson Davis, 1861  
-Preamble to the Declaration of Independence  
-*The Gettysburg Address*, Abraham Lincoln, 1863  
-Farewell Address, Abraham Lincoln, 1861  
-*We Shall Fight on the Beaches* by Churchill, 1940  
-To V-E Day Crowds by Churchill, 1945

-Inaugural Address by John F. Kennedy, 1961  
-Declaration of War on Germany by Woodrow Wilson, 1917  
-*A Square Deal* by Theodore Roosevelt, 1903  
-Preamble to *Apology* by Plato  
-Opening lines of *A Tale of Two Cities* by Dickens  
-Excerpts from *The Iliad*, *The Odyssey*, etc.

## DEADLINES:

1. Information about Speech Meet is sent home. (2 months before meet)
2. A copy of each student's piece is turned in to the teacher\* (5 weeks before meet)
3. Pieces must be memorized and presented for a grade. (2 weeks before meet)
4. Students will be judged on delivery for a grade (1 week before meet)
5. Speech Meet Competition End of October

\*Students will be assigned a piece if they have not selected one by the deadline. No duplicates within a grade.