



**CONGRESSIONAL
DEBATE**

What is Debate?

- It's a club where you get to speak about bills (topics) that you or someone around you has created
- You choose a side: Are you **FOR** (Pro) the bill, or **AGAINST** (Con) the bill?
- You refute speakers on the other sides and poke holes in others' speeches

What's a bill?

- A bill is written by a debater
- It's the topic we talk about
- It usually highlights a problem in our world today and offers a solution to it



What kinds of bills are there?

- There are three types of bills:
 - Economy (Econ)- Money, Taxes, Banks
 - Foreign Affairs- International Problems- can be about pretty much any country in the world
 - Public Welfare- can range from unions to creating a new national holiday



What is a tournament like?

- The typical tournament is once a month on a Saturday
- You're spilt up into rooms of around 20 people from other schools
- You arrange a docket (list of bills in the order you want to talk about them)
- You have three different sessions where you can give a speech
- After the third session, we have voting and then awards



What's a tournament really like?

- We dress up all nicely and look really fancy and professional
- We go to some far away school for a Saturday once a month
- We take the party bus!
- We eat a lot of pizza and other junk food, trying not to get it on our nice clothes
- We go to Culver's to celebrate us doing well...or not so well
- Oh, and all of the other things mentioned in the previous slide



OTHER FAQ's

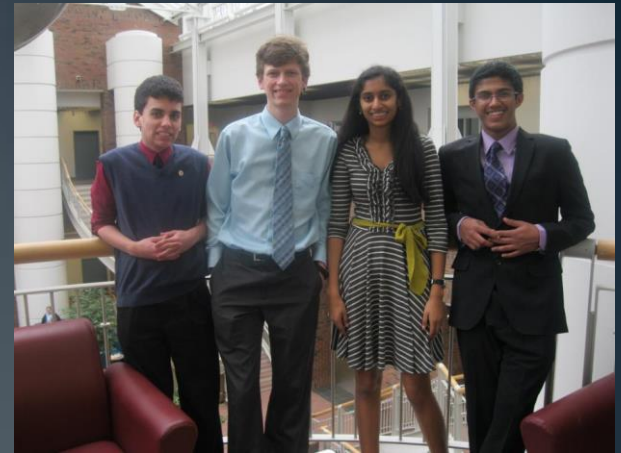
- **What do we do during practice?**
 - We mock debate, work on debate skills in small groups, and prepare for the upcoming tournament
- **When do we have practice?**
 - Tuesdays from 6pm-8pm
- **Where do we have practice?**
 - South Campus Library
- **How long is the “season”?**
 - September-March



FAQ's (cont.)

- **WHAT DO I WEAR?**

- The dress code is “business casual”
- Here's some examples of what debaters usually wear:



WHY SHOULD I JOIN DEBATE?

ACADEMIC

- Speaking Skills
- Great for College
- Self-Confidence
- Learn to be Persuasive
- Makes you sound smart (but only if you show up for practices)
- Understand the world around you better

JUST FOR FUN

- Friends (LT and elsewhere)
- We go on trips and even get to miss school sometimes
- Best memories from LT
- Trophies and Medals & Infinite Bragging Rights
- Win an argument against your parents