First Round BCC Speech Competition
Judge's Instructions

Thursday, April 2, 2026

Thank you for volunteering to judge the Bergen Speech Competition!
The competition begins promptly at 12:30. All speakers must get a chance to finish their presentations within the hour, so here are suggestions to help things run more smoothly

JUDGE INFORMATION:

- All judges should report to the Registration Area <u>between 12:00-12:25 p.m.</u> by the Welcome Center near Public Safety (Pitkin, 1st floor, near L-wing)
- All judges will receive a room assignment and should head to that location immediately.
- Each judge will receive a folder that contains ballots and an envelope.
- There are 5-6 speakers and 3 judges in each competition room.
- Each judge will complete ONE ballot for every student speaker.
- There will be a <u>Lead Judge</u> in every room who will discuss the procedures with the other judges/students and keep things moving.
- Students will hand the Lead Judge an index card with their name on it. The Lead Judge can then determine the speaking order.
- Please write the speaking order on the board so it is visible to everyone, and students are prepared for their turn.
- The Lead Judge should time each speech and share that information with fellow judges. He/she should give the students a 5-minute, 6-minute and 7-minute warning.
- After all speeches are completed, The Lead Judge can conclude the competition. Congratulate the students for participating!

Immediately following the competition, each Judge should:
- Place their ballots in the envelope provided and seal the envelope.
- Return their <u>Folders and Ballots</u> to the registration area for collection.

This academic event would not be possible without your involvement, and we truly appreciate your time and dedication to our students.

CELEBRATE OUR STUDENTS

Presenting a speech in front of an audience is quite an achievement. Understandably, many students will be nervous before they present. Please create a welcoming atmosphere in your classroom. Feel free to chat with students before speeches begin and even in between speeches. Past students have reported that this helps ease their anxiety and reduces nervousness.   Make it fun and celebrate their participation.

Things to Note:
- Most rooms do not have a podium. Students will have to hold their notes/outline.
- Students are **NOT** allowed to use Power Point or any electronic visual aids for this competition. Students were told this in advance.
- Be prepared to see a broad range of speaking abilities because some students have never taken a speech class before.
- The time for speeches is 6 minutes, with a grace period of 30-45 seconds. Time matters!

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USING THE JUDGING BALLOT

1. You will fill out ONE ballot for EACH contestant.
2. The speech ballot consists of POINTS and RANK.
3. After each speaker finishes, rate the speaker with **POINTS**. Points range from 10-40, with 40 being the highest score.
4. After all speakers have concluded speeches, **RANK** the group from 1-6 (1 being the best speaker in the group)
5. You cannot give two speakers the same Rank. However, speakers may have the same number of Points.
6. **Rankings** and **Speaker Points** should coordinate. The highest *Rank* should coordinate with the highest number of *Speaker Points*. For example: The highest *Rank* (which is #1) should also have the highest number of *Points* except in the event of a tie.
7. Please do not confer with the other judges in the room or average your scores. It is your individual judgment that will be used in the overall competition results.
8. Ballots will be returned to each speaker after the event, so please write any comments you think would be helpful.