

South Texas Christian Schools Speech Meet Parent Information

All Annapolis Christian Academy students in Grades 1-6 are required to participate in classroom speech meets in late January and early February. Qualifiers from those meets will be eligible to participate in the South Texas Speech Meet. Here is how it works:

Nov.-Dec. 2020 **Help your student select a speech** from the approved materials on our website—www.aca.annapolischristianacademy.com—select **Campus Life**—and then select **Speech Meet**. Categories and Materials are listed by grade level. Make 2 copies of the speech you select and put one copy in your student's homework folder and give one copy to the student's teacher by December 4th. Be careful to **only print the page number of your selection** (otherwise you will end up printing the entire category by mistake!). Select one speech.

Grade 1 Bible Memory (NKJV only)
 Poetry
 Dramatic Interpretation

Grades 2-4 Bible Memory (NKJV only)
 Poetry
 Dramatic Interpretation

Grades 5-6 Bible Memory (NKJV only)
 Poetry
 Dramatic Interpretation
 Patriotic Recitation

Dec. & January **Help students memorize their speeches** by deadlines provided by classroom teachers. All speeches require **an introduction** already found with the speech; be sure to memorize the introduction as well. Please review the *Category Descriptions* included here and on the website, so that your child complies with the requirements for an introduction and does not have points deducted by the judges. Other important information on the ACA Speech Meet website includes the judging scoring sheet and speech meet technique suggestions for students. Students are encouraged to use natural gestures and to convey the meaning of the speech with facial and vocal expression. Props are not permitted. Practice! Practice!

Jan. 25-29, 2021 **Classroom Speech Meets take place.** Please avoid scheduling any appointments or missed school time this week. Judges will evaluate the students as they present their speeches in a closed competition without an audience other than classmates. Remember to review the scoring sheets and suggestions on the website to help your students. Qualifiers for the STCS Regional Speech Meet will be announced this week as well.

Saturday, March 20, 2021 **STCS Regional Speech Meet** at River Hills Christian Academy for Qualifiers.

Questions? Contact your child's teacher or Amanda Garcia at 361-876-0905 or nickcapri2@gmail.com.

Category Descriptions:

Bible Memory: Grades 1-8

The student begins with a brief introduction that includes **stating the Scripture reference and the Bible version**. No other introduction is required. The student will then recite the Scripture, **following it with a concluding explanation** in his or her own words of one or two sentences; this is **not** typed and included with the selection, but must come from the student. As the student prepares, adult help may be necessary to explain the passage, but the student must express the meaning in his or her own words, not those of the adult. Facial and vocal expressions and good speech techniques should be evident to portray the emotion of the passage. Gestures may be used for emphasis, not to draw “word pictures” with the hands. Bible memorization verses must be selected from the approved materials. Scripture passages must come from the New King James Version (NKJV) Bible and be stated as such. Props are not allowed.

Poetry: Grades 1-8

The student begins the presentation by **announcing the title and author**. No further explanation is necessary. Students should make the poem come alive through facial and vocal expressions to portray meaning and emotion. Gestures may be appropriate to enhance the presentation but are not required. When used, gestures should be for emphasis, not to draw “word pictures” with the hands. The face, voice, and body language should tell the story. The entire presentation must be memorized. Props are not allowed.

Dramatic Interpretation: Grades 1-6

The student begins the presentation by **announcing the title, then the author or source or moral of the story**. This category is for the dramatic presentation of a story in the form of a speech or an interpretation. Students should seek to make each character in the story distinguishable from any other character through voice, facial expression, gestures and body language. When used, gestures and body movements should be for emphasis, not to draw “word pictures.” The entire presentation, including any introductory material printed with the selection, must be memorized. Props are not allowed.

Patriotic Recitation: Grades 5-7

This category is for patriotic material written by or presented by famous historical persons. All presentations must begin with **an introduction consisting of two to three sentences which includes the title and some background information regarding the time or circumstance surrounding the speech**. The online materials provide this background for most of the selections in the italicized paragraph prior to the body of the article. For those articles without such information, the background must be provided through knowledge or research (adult assistance is permitted). Facial and vocal expressions and good speech techniques should be evident, as well as an obvious patriotic spirit arising from the presentation. Gestures and appropriate body movements are encouraged for a patriotic speech but not for the purpose of dramatizing the presentation. The entire presentation must be memorized. Props are not allowed.

Dramatic Monologue: Grades 7-8

The student begins the presentation by **announcing the title, then the author or source of the story**. This category is for the dramatic presentation of a story in the form of a speech or an interpretation. Students should seek to make each character in the story distinguishable from

any other character through voice, facial expression, gestures and body language. When used, gestures and body movements should be for emphasis, not to draw “word pictures.” The entire presentation, including any introductory material included with the selection, must be memorized. Props are not allowed.

Original Speech: Grade 8

Students compose an original persuasive speech in response to the speech prompt. The prompt and additional guidelines are published at annapolischristianacademy.com. The student should clearly demonstrate a Christian worldview, communicating a nuanced understanding of the Bible’s teachings and moral and ethical imperatives, as applicable. Students must name their works, and it must have been written in the 2020-2021 school year. Each speech will be submitted to the school coordinator by the deadline, (date tbd by the school coordinator) and must meet with the coordinator’s approval. The coordinator may refuse entry to any speech considered inappropriate or unsuitable for a Christian school speech meet (e.g., the student’s speech advocates behavior or opinions in *clear opposition* to the primary doctrine teachings of the Bible). The coordinator’s decision is final. While students are invited to receive constructive criticism from others, the work should be completed entirely by the student. The entire presentation must be memorized. The student must begin the presentation by announcing the speech title. The entire speech must be given within a 3-to-5-minute time limit. Students who go under/over time will lose 2 points every 5 seconds. Props are not allowed.