What is it?

Speech and Debate covers a lot of different activities. The Speech side is primarily for those with either literary or a dramatic interest. Students present scenes from plays, novels and stories in performance, or perhaps deliver speeches they themselves have written on a particular aspect of modern society that they find worth analysis. They can be funny, sad, or thought-provoking—or all three. On the Debate side we mostly engage in Lincoln-Douglas Debate, a one-on-one activity where the topics usually revolve around issues of right and wrong. We answer questions like, Is Capital Punishment moral? Or, Is Civil Disobedience justified? The topics change every two months, and all debaters must, at every tournament, debate both sides of the resolution. The arguing is fast, furious, and fun.

Join Hen Hud Speech and Debate!

The Speech and Debate Team is one of the most exciting extracurricular programs at Hendrick Hudson High School. We travel. We perform. We argue. And we win trophies.

A long, proud history

A cornerstone of the Hen Hud high school community for decades, our achievements as a team are remarkable. We have won Harvard, Yale, Princeton, UPenn, the NY State Finals, and virtually every single high school tournament we have attended, from Texas to Massachusetts. We qualify students for national finals around the country. And we’ve got the trophies to prove it.
**What’s in it for you?**

- You’ll gain confidence from public speaking.
- You’ll get smarter (and colleges love forensics students).
- You’ll learn to write better, to research better, and to think better.
- You’ll travel, from around the state to around the country, depending on your level of success.
- You’ll have fun with students on the team, in the region and across the country who share your interests. You will make friends for life that you never expected.

**Run a fantastic tournament**

Hen Hud’s annual Malcolm A. Bump Memorial Tournament is one of the longest-running, most respected national events in high school forensics. Every year we host competitors from across the country who take over both the high school and Frank G. Lindsay down the hill. Not only do we provide them and their judges and coaches with two full days of events (there’s probably about 400 people involved altogether), we also feed all of them and house many of them —families throughout the district open their doors to take in the teams as overnight guests. And it’s all run by the members of the Hen Hud team.

**So what is the bottom line?**

We hear one comment over and over again, every year, when the senior old-timers on the team explain what we do to the novice newcomers: “I learned more in debate than anywhere else in high school.” That may be true. We’ve also heard another comment year after year. “It’s more fun than anything else in high school.” That may be true too. Find out for yourself. **Come check us out!**

**More Info**

Contact Captains Sophie Ruff, mygreyirishtb@gmail.com, or Zack Struver, zstruver@gmail.com, or Coach Jim Menick, jim_menick@yahoo.com. Visit our site at www.jimmenick.com/henhud