

The Harvard National High School Invitational
Speech and Debate Tournament
Presidents' Day Weekend, February 18-20, 2012
Information Sheet

Contact Information

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****HARVARD LOGISTICS****

On Friday, February 13 we will depart for the 35th Annual Harvard Invitational Forensics Tournament. This letter lists the information you need to ensure a successful trip. This tournament is an expensive tournament, but it promises to be a debate experience unlike any in North Carolina. It is always a wonderful experience.

Basic itinerary:

February 17	Friday	travel / registration	(miss school - A day)
February 18	Saturday	(tournament rounds)	
February 19	Sunday	(tournament rounds)	
February 20	Monday	(break rounds / awards)	(teacher workday if not a snow make-up day)
February 21	Tuesday	travel	(teacher workday if not a snow make-up day)

I took the liberty of getting Mr. Spivey to approve this trip outright. No teacher can say “no”. Students are encouraged to get as much work ahead of time so they will not be so far behind when they return. Bring some work to do during “down-time” and on the plane.

Tournament cost: \$600.00. Because plane tickets have now been secured and paid for, please get this money in ASAP – check made out to “Myers Park High School”. This amount fully covers airfare, registration, hotel, and subway fares. If you absolutely need to spread out payments please let me know. DUE (or payment arrangements made) by February 13, 2012

Money: Please bring enough money for all food and any souvenir purchases. I can’t begin to estimate this amount because I do not know individual habits/tastes. I do know that there is a good deli/bagel/coffee shop across the street from Harvard and plenty of good restaurants and souvenir shops within walking distance. I will bring plenty of cash and a credit card for emergencies, so no one will go hungry! American Travelers Checks are most wise - especially in case of theft. **Students will need \$50.00 to cover one checked bag on the flight.** Please make sure your money, purses/wallets, and book bags are with you safely at all times.

Hotel Information :

Cambridge Center Marriott
Two Cambridge Center, Cambridge, MA 02142
617-494-6600

Rooms under “Myers Park” / “Andrew West/Miriam Pickens”

Competition Locations (Chaperones):

Lincoln Douglas -- “The Quad:” Hilles, Graham & Parks, and the Quad Houses.
Monday elims will move back to the Harvard Yard. (WIECKOWSKI)

Public Forum Debate – Science Buildings – Science Buildings, CGIS, William James, Littauer, Monday Elimination Rounds will move to the Harvard Yard. (PICKENS)

Speech – No change– The Harvard Yard and some Science Buildings (MERRITT)

Congressional Debate – Lesley University –Porter Square, Sunday elims move back to the Science Center and the Harvard Yard. (WEST)

Schedule: www.harvard-debate.org

<http://www.joyoftournaments.com/ma/harvard/info.asp?p=4>

T Directions:

Logan Airport -> Hotel

1. Board Silver Line at Terminal B
2. Take Silver line 6 stops to South Station
3. Transfer to Red Line **OUT**bound (Alewife)
4. Take Red Line 4 stops to Kendall/MIT

Hotel -> Harvard Square

1. Board Red Line **OUT**bound (Alewife)
2. Take Red Line 2 stops to Harvard Square (LD/PF/Speech)
3. Congress stays on for one more stop – Porter Square / Lesley University

Hotel -> Faneuil Hall

1. Board Red Line **IN**bound (Braintree OR Ashmont)
2. Take Red Line 2 stops to Park Street
3. Transfer to Green Line (Lechmere)
4. Take Green Line 1 stop to Gov’t Center

Weather / Attire: We should all watch the Weather Channel the week we leave. Obviously, plan for three tournament outfits; layered clothing is always smart, a good coat that can easily fit over all clothing, and a folding umbrella. It looks like an umbrella will be a necessity. Gloves and possibly earmuffs. Remember, this is the northeast in the winter! ALSO: Take good walking shoes. You will walk A LOT at Harvard. There is

absolutely no problem with wearing good tennis shoes or boots to your rounds, carrying your dress shoes in your back pack, and changing shoes once you are in your round. (our ladies, especially) We should ALL plan for wet snow/sludge and rain. For Friday, and maybe Sat, Sun, Mon nights - smart-casual is good - (layered clothing, good coat, folding umbrella, great shoes). I can not stress this enough!!

Supervision / Safety: It is no secret that the students listed are a core group of what makes Myers Park Debate so strong, competitive, and wonderful to coach. I have no doubt that all CMS policies will be adhered to during the trip. But because of the nature of this big trip, I feel the need to reiterate a couple of rules and ask parents to talk to their student about them.

(A) It is impossible for me to be with all students at all times. Parents: I do not mean to alarm you - Harvard and the areas of Boston we will be in are very safe, and the entire tournament is at Harvard and a nearby high school all within a safe walking distance. But please notice that the schedule has some rounds at night, and we have got to know that our students are looking out for one-another and that they know where I am. We will gather together each night to take the subway back to the hotel.

(B) There will be a curfew each night (never any later than midnight) and students will be expected to be in their own rooms at this time until they leave the following morning.

Guidelines:

- You can only use the Subway with a chaperone. No ifs, ands or buts, you **MUST** have an **ADULT** chaperone. Buddy system does not apply on the Subway.
- If you get off at the wrong Subway stop, **STAY WHERE YOU ARE** and call a chaperone. (Use your cell phone **AWAY** from the Subway tracks.)
- When exploring Harvard Square, you must be with a friend. You may **NOT** go beyond Harvard square.
- If you get lost, either in the Square or on campus, call your assigned chaperone.
- At Faneuil Hall, please stay in groups of three. It's a big, crowded place.
- If you are eliminated from the competition (Which none of you will...) You are required to watch break rounds in your events. This is a learning experience!

MAKE SURE YOU SECURE PARENTAL PERMISSION. FORM IS INCLUDED.

FLIGHT INFO:

Flight Information will be forthcoming.

- **You MUST have a picture ID with you in order to board a plane.**
- **\$25.00 checked bag EACH WAY**

- **Your expected arrival time at Charlotte Douglas Airport will be at least 2 hours before flight time. Fridays are extremely busy so be ON TIME!!!!!!**

Additional Information:

- All students will be expected to be on their best behavior. Any discipline issues can result in your being sent home early at YOUR expense.
- No one is to be in an unsupervised location without an adult or break curfew. Both offenses can result in you being sent home early.
- All students must have a cell phone (turned on) at all times. Put contact info on www.mpdebate.org
- You will need to bring money for all meals, including breakfast.
- Parents have signed a permission form and it must be returned completed to Ms. Pickens by **February 13, 2012** Teacher notification forms are also due on the 13th to Ms. Pickens.
- Info is always available on www.mpdebate.org

Recreation:

- Preparation is important. The ability to relax is just as much so.
- There is a pool, gym, cafeteria, and two restaurants IN THE HOTEL. Take advantage of them!!
- Harvard University is located right on Harvard Square... LOTS of restaurants and shops to explore between rounds. Really cool place, so be sure to check it out WITH A BUDDY.

**Most important rule: HAVE
FUN!!**

**This tournament is a great experience. You
WILL learn a lot, and you WILL become a
better competitor from it. ☺**

**ALL permission forms and monies must be turned in by
Monday, February 13, 2012 to Ms. Pickens in S-5!!!!!!**

Myers Park Speech and Debate Teacher Notification Form

Tournament: The Harvard National High School Invitational Speech and Debate Tournament

Dates Traveling: February 17-20, 2012

School Days Missed: Friday, February 17(A Day), possibly if snow make-up days, but currently teacher workdays: Monday, February 20 (A/B Day), Tuesday, February 21 (A/B Day)

Student: _____

Period	Class	Teacher Signature	Notes
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Friday, February 17th

A1	_____	_____	

A2	_____	_____	

A3	_____	_____	

A4	_____	_____	

Monday, February 16th

A/B1	_____	_____	

A/B2	_____	_____	

A/B3	_____	_____	

A/B4	_____	_____	

Tuesday, February 17th

A/B1	_____	_____	

A/B2	_____	_____	

A/B3 _____

A/B4 _____

Teachers: This form indicates that you were made aware that the named student above will be traveling with the Speech and Debate Team to a national tournament and missing school. Students are required to make up all work missed. Please notify Mr. West or Ms. Pickens if there are any questions.