

**FNSBSD SPEECH CONTEST**  
**Elementary and Middle Schools**

**Speech Categories**

**Extemporaneous:**

In this category the student is given three topics the day before he/she is to speak. The topics will be current events that revolve around local, state, and international subjects. The topics will be sent to the sponsor teacher in each school in time to be given to participants(s) twenty-four hours prior to delivery. The length of this speech must be 1-3 minutes.

**Original Oration:**

In this category the student is to present a speech with original text created by the speaker. It may be serious or humorous in nature. The speech can be an original short story, poetry or about a topic that is of interest to the student. The length of this speech must be 3-5 minutes.

**Serious (Dramatic) Interpretation:**

In this category the student is to present a speech, poetry, a short story or prose that has been written and published by someone other than the student. The subject must be of a serious nature although some humor may be included. It should be delivered verbally as it was written, without changes. The interpretation comes in the use of vocal inflection, posturing, gestures and other aspects of public speaking noted under the category "delivery" on the evaluation form. (See Speech Evaluation Sheet.) The presentation must include credit given to the author and must be between 3-5 minutes.

**Humorous Interpretation**

In this category the student is to present a speech, poetry, a short story or prose that has been written and published by someone other than the student. It must be of a humorous nature. It should be delivered verbally as it was written, without changes. The interpretation comes in the use of vocal inflection, posturing, gestures and other aspects of public speaking noted under the category "delivery" on the evaluation form. (See Speech Evaluation Sheet.) The presentation must include credit given to the author and must be between 3-5 minutes.

**NOTE:** In all speeches it is important for teachers to guide students on the use of language and topics that are appropriate for elementary and middle school audiences.