

FORENSICS REGISTRATION – Due no later than Friday, November 22, 2019

Dear Parents and Students:

Welcome to the 2019-2020 Forensics Season! I am excited to have another opportunity to work with our many talented young people. We had a very successful season last year with a 4th place team finish at State...and I look forward to another great season this year!

I have always been thankful that I was a part of my school's Forensics program in Middle School. I love the confidence it instills in young people, and that it builds a comfort level for a variety of speaking situations. I am a strong believer in the power of words and effective communication. I love the Forensics program and am so glad to be a part of it again this year. Forensics offers an unmatched opportunity to ensure success both now and in the future for our students.

Practices can begin in January this year after the initial organizational work is completed, and the season will conclude at the beginning of April. Coaching assignments will be determined by Ms. Halfmann upon on-time receipt of registration sheets. Students will be able to contact their coaches before our Christmas break. Students and coaches will be notified of their coaching assignment and can then set up a practice schedule. **Students are required to practice twice a week to be a part of the team. If your coach notifies Ms. Halfmann that their students have cancelled or not shown up to their practices, parents will be called and you can be suspended from a meet.**

There are a wide variety of categories from which your child may choose. A brief description of each is attached to this paperwork. Each student will select one category in which he/she will participate for the entire season. If the category is already filled to capacity, the 2nd or 3rd choice your child has indicated on the registration form will be assigned. The same piece will be performed for the duration of the season. Some categories are solo, while others involve groups. Some categories require creative writing, or memorization, while others require selecting a poem or piece of literature and reading it aloud.

If your child intends to participate in a category with another student(s), please have them compare schedules and extra-curricular activities before registering. They need to come to an agreement on their commitment level with regard to tournament dates and practice schedules. If it does not appear that their schedules are the same, I suggest they work in a solo category or find a partner who has the same availability. This is a very critical element that will strongly impact a student's success at meets. Please make sure your partner can go to state!! We do not want students not available to go to state, partnering with those who can attend state if they qualify.

****Additionally if your child does not contact us at least one week in advance that they can no longer attend a tournament they have previously committed to, there will be a \$10 fee for late cancellation.** Additionally, students are responsible for keeping their practice appointments with their coaches.

I know Meet Dates are a key piece of information that parents appreciate having in a timely manner. I have included a listing of possible meet dates in the packet. I am providing these tentative dates as you to coordinate your child's school and extracurricular activities. I will give you more solid information as soon as I can. Some may involve bus transportation to and from school, while other meets, students must find their own transportation both to and from the meet.

Although Forensics is fun, it involves a commitment on the part of the students and their parents. In addition to your parental consent, we need the following from You, the Parent:

1. Your willingness to chaperone during one of the Forensics tournaments during the season **AND/OR**
2. Your willingness to coach an individual or group of students either before or after school, or during lunch **AND/OR**
3. Your willingness to be trained to be a judge, and judge for a few of the tournaments. (Based on the number of students from our school that are involved, our school needs to provide at least four to seven judges for each meet) **AND**
4. Your assistance in hosting a meet at our school (2/14/2020) whether it is in the planning of or in working at it that Friday evening. Everyone is needed/expected to assist with this.

Your child needs:

1. Classroom and homework assignments completed to the best of his/her ability. Failure to keep up with schoolwork can result in removal from tournaments and/or the team per our School Academic Eligibility policy.
2. A willingness and commitment to give up some Friday evenings, and 1 or 2 Saturdays during the season to participate in tournaments.
3. A commitment to attend practice sessions as scheduled with the assigned coach.

Thank you for reading this letter carefully. Please discuss it with your child so that he/she is aware of his/her responsibilities. In order to help me move forward in arranging coaches and schedules, **I ask that this registration slip be completed and returned no later than Friday, November 22, 2019**. Thank you for your time and assistance, as I understand that extra-curricular activities also involve your time and commitment as a parent! If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at thalfmann@wbparishes.org.

Sincerely,
Tracy Halfmann
Head Forensics Coach

2019/2020 FORENSICS REGISTRATION FORM --

**PLEASE TURN IN THIS SHEET and TENTATIVE MEET DATES SIGNUP SHEET
NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22nd, to the School Office or Ms. Halfmann (Room 18)**

I have read the registration letter. I understand/will comply with the guidelines of the Forensics Program.

Student Name: _____ (printed) Student Signature: _____

Parent Name: _____ (printed) Parent Signature: _____

Secondary Parent Name: _____ (printed) Secondary Parent Signature: _____

Homeroom Teacher: _____ Grade: _____ Room #: _____

Parent E-mail address _____

Parent E-mail address _____

Parent Phone # in Case of Emergency _____

Top 3 Category choices you have made in order of preference (Indicate if you would like Ms. Halfmann to help you choose a category):

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

Name(s) of your partner/group member/s. Permission from Ms. Halfmann required if groups are larger than 5 people: _____

*****For 7th and 8th Graders Only ... My Coach Last Year was _____.**

I would would not prefer to work with this same coach again this year if s/he is available. **This information will be CONFIDENTIAL.**

*****If you wish to request a particular person as your coach, please write his/her name here. There are no guarantees that we can fulfill your request, but it will be taken into consideration. Even if you had a coach in the past it does not guarantee you will get the same coach.**

Parents please complete the information below – I welcome all assistance you can offer:

Coaching – we are always in need of coaches and sometimes with the busy schedules students have it is easier to coach our own students and/or their groups. It is not difficult to coach; there is not prior experience necessary. We do not expect you to coach blindly; I will meet with you, go over the category and help you get your student/s started. Please consider coaching – **we are always short on coaches!**

I/we am willing to be a **coach** for one or more students.

The student/s I am willing to coach for are: _____

--AND/OR--

Judging – we are always in need of judges. Judges go to the forensics meets we attend with our students and judge other students participating at the meet. You will never judge someone from St. Frances Cabrini. Being a judge requires attending a 2-hour judges training session. We will have a training session at St. Frances Cabrini.

I am willing to judge at meets and take the 2-hour judges training class.

--AND/OR--

I will **chaperone** during a tournament.

--AND--

ALL parents are needed to help in some way for our large meet! Thank you!

_____ will assist in preparing for and/or working at the meet hosted at SFC (2/14/2020)
(Name of volunteer)

Different types of assistance are needed when hosting a meet. Please indicate all items you would be willing to help with. This is a large event with over 500 students attending; we need all the assistance we can get! Further details and a schedule will follow as we approach the meet date:

I would be willing to assist the Saturday or Sunday before the meet setting up folders and making copies. (only need 5 people for this)

I would be willing to assist with set-up the day of the meet.

I would be willing to work from 4:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

I would be willing to work a 6:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. shift

I would be willing to work from 4:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

I will **also** be able to provide 2 dozen baked goods (not a volunteer duty – we need donations for the hospitality suite – Thank you!)

I HAVE taken the Safeguarding God's Children training.

I HAVE NOT taken the Safeguarding God's Children training.

Due no later than Friday, November 22, 2019.

Send to the school office - c/o Ms. Halfmann, Forensics....or drop off in Room 18.

These are the **TENTATIVE** meet dates, as I mentioned in the information letter. **I can't stress enough that NOTHING IS CONFIRMED as yet.** However, I do realize having at least a general idea of our meet dates will be helpful for you and your child in deciding whether or not s/he should sign up for the team. I HOPE to have final confirmation of the dates by the first week of January, and then I will try to get a reservation secured at each meet. In the mean time, please consider these dates as you are making your decisions about joining the team.

When I have our dates confirmed, I will send home that information along with details for signup for meets, judging, chaperoning, etc. Again, this is **PRELIMINARY** information given in hopes that it will help you make an informed decision.

PLEASE RETURN THIS SHEET ALONG WITH YOUR REGISTRATION FORM BY FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2019.

Thank you,

Ms. Halfmann
Forensic Coach

Student Name _____ Teacher _____ GR _____

Please place an X by those meets that you believe you would be able to attend. I will have you make an official commitment to attending once I have the meets confirmed.

TENTATIVE/WISH LIST OF 2018-19 Season Meet Dates

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| _____ Friday, February 14, 2020 | St. Frances Cabrini School (Confirmed) |
| _____ Friday, February 22, 2020 | Silverbrook Intermediate School |
| _____ Friday, February 28, 2020 | Badger Middle School |
| _____ Friday, March 6, 2020 | Wisconsin Hills Middle School-Brookfield |
| _____ Friday, March 13, 2020 | Slinger Middle School |
| _____ Saturday, April 4, 2020 | STATE MEET at Oak Creek High School (for qualifiers only) |
- **No bus for State...please plan to make travel arrangements**

