

LIBRARY AND EDUCATION COMMISSION

October 20, 2021
7:00 PM to 9:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER & ORDERS OF THE DAY

II. CONSENT CALENDAR

APPROVAL OF 10/20/21 AGENDA
DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

- A. REVIEW BOND & AUDIT QUESTIONS.
- B. PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT ON SPEECH & DEBATE.

APPROVE MINUTES OF 8/18/2021 & 9/15/2021
MEETINGS

III. PUBLIC RECORD

IV. OPEN FORUM
(2 MINUTES OF SPEAKING TIME IS AVAILABLE)

V. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

A) REVIEW BOND & AUDIT QUESTIONS

**B) PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT ON SPEECH &
DEBATE FOR GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP**

Speech & Debate: Global Citizenship

Catherine Tong, Volunteer Program Lead

Tiffany Bradford-Oldham, Program Consultant

Bridget Kowalczyk, Program Coordinator

History of Program at King Library

- Homework Club enhancements: Fall 2019
- Volunteer instructor, Catherine Tong, Notre Dame High School of San Jose
- First Speech & Debate Series offered in person at King Library in Spring 2020
- Continued online in Spring 2020 to present



Mission and Program Goals

Mission

Provide a quality, educational Speech & Debate program with a focus on social justice for the purpose of helping students develop into global citizens - aware of current events and challenges and capable of taking positive action with the understanding that the four interrelated principles of social justice are equity, access, participation and rights for all.

Goals

We aim to create a learning environment in which students will:

- Recognize and understand the elements of speech & debate
- Work collaboratively on teams
- Improve critical thinking skills
- Improve communication skills
- Recognize credible sources*

Student Learning Objectives

By the end of the program, students will:

- Identify evidence to support an argument
- Locate (or recognize) articles that support an argument
- Defend their viewpoint using logic and evidence
- Work as a team to deliver a presentation
- Speak clearly and slowly, using a persuasive tone



Ground Rules for the Series

- Be respectful. Don't laugh at others.
- Be an active listener.
- Be mindful.
- It's okay to say that you don't know - but, always try!
- Don't share the information that other people share outside of class, since it might be pretty personal to them.

Resources for Parents / Sample Week

Resources for Parents

- [Website](#)
- Agenda posted before session
- Difficult topics & decompression: Reflections in class / Parental follow-up

Sample Week

- [Fall 2020 Week 3 Presentation](#)

Statistics

Dates	Weeks	# of Students	# of students/ Grade Levels	Returnees/ New	# of Instructors	Topic(s)
Spring 2020 Feb. 5-May 27	14	11	1 - 2nd grade 3 - 3rd grade 4 - 4th grade 3 - 5th grade	N/A	4	Intro to S&D; Stereotyping; the Media; Colonialism;
Fall 2020 Sept. 22-Nov. 3	7	16	3 - 3rd grade 6- 4th grade 4 - 5th grade 3 - 6th gade	8 returned; 8 new	3	Black Lives Matter

Statistics

Dates	Weeks	# of Students	# of Students/ Grade Levels	Returnees/ New	# of Instructors	Topic(s)
Spring 2021 April 15-May 27	7	24	6 - 3rd grade 11 - 4th grade 5 - 5th grade 2 - 6th grade	5 (3 series); 4 (2 series); 15 new	5 Instructors & 8 Instructor Assts.	Anti-Asian sentiment
Summer 2021 Aug. 2-6	1 (5 days)	62	3 - 3rd grade 17 - 4th grade 18 - 5th grade 8 - 6th grade 10 - 7th grade 6 - 8th grade	1 (3 series) 4 (2 series) 57 new	5-8	The Environment

Challenges & Solutions

Date	Challenges	Solutions
Spring 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Size of class; student needs● Team building of students ● Ambitious & packed curriculum ● Most students lacked basic skills on iPads ● Adapting course to online environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Recruited & trained 3 instructor assts.● Icebreakers at first few sessions; small group discussions around articles and pictures at stations ● Adjusted workload in weekly meetings● Shifted focus to the building blocks ● Adjusted to include time of need training into the class ● Moving quickly to rethink how best to present materials without losing momentum

Challenges & Solutions

Date	Challenges	Solutions
Fall 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Students aging out of program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Plan a program for 6th-8th graders
Spring 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Program leader graduating & leaving 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Recruit and train 10 new volunteers
Summer 2021: July series	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Teen volunteer availability ● Need at least 1 teen with S&D experience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cancelled program for 6th-8th grade ● Do not offer program without adequate expertise to teach the elements of S&D
Summer 2021: August camp	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Volunteers require support & motivation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Engaged in positive follow up with volunteers ● More familiar and simpler topic ● Clarity in communication & time commitment ● Consultant and coordinator preplanned agendas; homework; flexibility for volunteers to participate in planning meetings or watch recordings and work independently

Parent Pre-Program Survey

Spring 2020 - Spring 2021

1. Why did you sign up your child/children for this workshop?
1. What do you hope they learn?
1. Anything else you'd like to share?

Response & # of times mentioned	Spring 2020	Fall 2020	Spring 2021	Totals
Increase confidence	12	9	13	34
Learn debate	9	9	15	33
Critical thinking	5	2	3	10
Current events	0	3	6	9
Socialize/friends	5	1	0	6
Work collaboratively	0	0	3	3
Research skills	0	2	0	2

Parents: Post-Program Survey

Expectations met	What was learned	Increased awareness?	Want more of:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Yes - 10 ● Good topics, curriculum ● Encouraged speaking ● Encouraged critical thinking ● Increased confidence ● Teachers are organized, prepared, outstanding - 2 ● Great, amazing - 5 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Respect for others - 2 ● Research skills - 2 ● Critical thinking ● Defending an argument ● Basics of Speech & Debate ● Current & historical events ● Research ● Empathy ● Social Awareness ● Presentation skills ● Team work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Debating at home ● Improved speech & expression ● Now recognizes stereotyping in media & society 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Research skills - 2 ● Citing articles ● In person classes ● Series ● Variety of topics - 2 ● Middle School series - 4 ● Debate time - 4 ● Discussion ● Teach inclusiveness ● Wider perspectives

Students: Pre & Post Program Survey

I feel comfortable speaking in front of a group.

	Spring 2020		Fall 2020		Spring 2021	
	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post
Strongly Disagree	0	0	0	0	4	0
Disagree	2	0	1	0	3	2
Neither Agree nor Disagree	3	2	4	1	4	3
Agree	4	1	3	5	2	1
Strongly Agree	0	3	3	4	0	2
	9	6	11	10	13	8

Feedback from Parents

I've seen the most growth in them since they've started learning from the well thought curriculum that you have methodically designed. They have become more actively aware of society's issues and learned to be more confident in expressing their thoughts through evidence. The high expectations you set for class have helped them to rise to the occasion. I am thoroughly impressed and thankful for the time and efforts you've dedicated to making this experience so valuable and meaningful for the developing youth. I wish you much more successes to come in your future offerings for our young learners.

-- Mother of 2 daughters (Aged 8 & 9) enrolled Spring 2020 & Fall 2020

Feedback from Parents

My son just asked me to set up a Zoom call with his best friends, plus his big sister, and he told me it is for something new he was launching called "Research Club." When I asked him how it went tonight, he pulled up two Google Doc outlines that the kids worked on together, brainstorming "What we already know" and "Questions we have" about Black Lives Matter and COVID-19. I will tell you, I teared up! Multiple pages for each topic, filled with well-organized facts and smart questions that they collaborated on together, with my son guiding the way.

CLEARLY the whole S+D experience have had a remarkable impact on this 9-year-old! He says the club is going to meet every Tuesday night and they have a whole list of topics to explore ♡ I really can't thank you enough for all the passion, patience and energy you put into this effort. Please feel free to share this note with Catherine, along with my sincere gratitude and admiration.

-- Mother of son (Aged 9) enrolled Spring 2020 & Fall 2020

Feedback from Students

SPRING 2020

“I love this class. I want more classes like this.”

FALL 2020

“I loved the debate class last time and I wish we could have another in person class!”

SPRING 2021

“It was great to know a lot more people.”

“I really like the class!”

“I really like the class and I hope to do it again. I loved the classes and enjoyed speaking to everyone.”

“I hope we have more classes like this.”

“I would like to attend the class in Fall again.”

Quality Programs

- Measurable outcomes
- Curriculum aligned with grade levels
- Transparency in communication
- Planning meetings and ongoing adjustments

Sustaining the Program

- ◎ Repeatable topics / presentations
- ◎ Basic presentation of concepts
- ◎ Social justice issues (equal rights, opportunities, treatment)
- ◎ Trained volunteers / time commitment

Thanks!

ANY QUESTIONS?



VI. COUNCIL LIAISON'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

VII. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

VIII. LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

**IX. COMMENTS AND
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**X. INFORMATION AND
UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES
FOR COMMISSION
PARTICIPATION**

**XI. ITEM FOR FUTURE
COMMISSION MEETING
AGENDAS**

**XII. MEETING SCHEDULE
THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE
WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 17TH, 2021
VIA ZOOM**

XIII. ADJOURNMENT