March 12, 2018

Dear Middle School/Junior High School Speech & Debate Coaches:

You and your teams are cordially invited to attend the first-ever UNLV Middle School Invitational Debate tournament. Our program is excited to host our inaugural middle school/junior high invitational debate tournament to be held **Saturday, April 21** on the beautiful campus of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.  Students in the 6th, 7th and 8th grades are invited. This is a three-round debate-only tournament that will feature both **Student Congress** and **Public Forum debate**. Following the debates there will be a demonstration of policy debate by members of UNLV’s nationally recognized policy debate team, and an awards ceremony!

The tournament website is <http://unlvmsdebate.tabroom.com>. If you have any questions that aren’t answered in the remainder or this invitation or on the tournament website, please contact: Dr. Jacob Thompson (702-895-3474); email – [jacob.thompson@unlv.edu](mailto:jacob.thompson@unlv.edu).

We look forward to seeing you!

Sincerely,

Dr. Jake Thompson and the UNLV Debate Team

Jacob Thompson, Ph.D.

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**Tournament Schedule**

* 7:45 – 8:15~~~~Registration CBC-C 324
* ***8:30-12:00 Debate Rounds~***
* 8:30-10:10~~~~~Student Congress begins
* 8:30-9:30~~~~~Public Forum Round 1~
* 9:45-10:45~~~~~~Public Forum Round 2
* 11:00-12:00~~~~~~Public Forum Round 3
* 10:10-10:20~~~~~~Student Congress recess
* 10:20 –12:00~~~~~ Student Congress continues
* 12:00-12:30 LUNCH CBC Courtyard
* 12:30-1:30-Demonstration Policy Debate (location TBA)
* 1:30-2:00~~~~~~~~~~AWARDS!

\*every effort will be made to keep the tournament on schedule and start the awards ceremony on time; however, tournaments can run long due to a variety of factors.

**General Information**

Cost: $10 per student + $10 Team fee

Deadline to enter students: **Wednesday, April 18, 2018.**

**THE ENTRY DEADLINE IS WEDNESDAY APRIL 11 AT 5:00 PM.** All entries must be made on-line via tabroom.com.  If you have not already set up an account please do so.

**Link to tournament on Tabroom.com: http://unlvmsdebate.tabroom.com**

**Lunch will be provided free** to allcoaches,students and chaperones.

Entry fees are $10.00 per entry plus $10.00 team fee. They can be paid via cash, check, or credit card, and must be paid at registration on Saturday morning, April 21 between 7:45 and 8:15 am in CBC-C 324. Once you register your teams on tabroom.com, the website will auto-generate an invoice that you can access.

If you wish to pay using a check, please make it payable to: “Board of Regents, UNLV.” If you would like to pay using credit card at the tournament, we will have credit card authorization forms that you can fill out during registration.

**A teacher or administrator from your school must accompany the students for the entire day.**

**Event Information**

This tournament is a debate-only tournament (no speech/individual events) featuring Public Forum debate and Congressional debate.

**Public Forum Resolution—Resolved: The United States federal government should develop safety guidelines regarding the exposure of minors to electronic communication devices.**

**Congress Resolutions** – The four Congressional resolutions that relate to: (1) establishing a permanent international colony on Mars (2) a mandatory life-skills class for students, (3) establishing a national DNA database, and (4) financial assistance for high school students studying STEM, are attached to this email and are available on tabroom.com.

Each session of Congress will last for 1 hour and 40 minutes.  We will be following regular parliamentary procedure which allows for a 3-minute speech and then questions from the floor. We will be using motions to begin and suspend debate from the floor etc.

If a student is registered for Public Forum debate and their partner does not show up they may switch to Student Congress on the day of the event.

Debate event pairings and judge assignments are determined by the tabroom.com algorithm.

**OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

**COACHES—PLEASE READ THIS CAREFULLY AND DISTRIBUTE TO YOUR STUDENTS AND CHAPERONES!!!**

1) Most or all of the rounds will take place in the CBC-C building on the UNLV Campus. UNLV has a mobile app (UNLV Mobile) with an interactive “Locate a Building” function. Please download it to your phone and encourage your students to do the same... It will help you all find your way around the campus. If you happen to not have a smartphone, there is an interactive map online that you can access at https://www.unlv.edu/maps/campus.

2) Use "UNLV Guest" wifi network while you’re on UNLV campus; there is no password. You will have to check an “accept the terms” box on a pop-up and click the “submit” button.

3) Registration and the main tabroom will be in CBC-C 324. Breakfast/coffee will be available each morning outside of CBC-C 324 starting at 7:45. Lunch will be served in or around CBC in a location TBD. We may also have to use the BEH building if we run out of rooms in CBC-C.

4) The closest parking lot to the CBC building is labeled as "lot N" on the interactive UNLV campus map. It is in the southwest region of the campus and can be accessed from Harmon Avenue off of Swenson St. You can also park in the large surface lot in front of the Student Union, although it is farther away from the CBC building than “lot N” is. Parking on campus on the weekends is free in any regular surface lot parking space marked “student” or “staff.” Please do NOT illegally park in any spot labeled “Handicapped,” “Reserved,” etc.

5) Rounds start at 8:30 am, please be on time.

6) Everything (pairings/postings/voting/schedule, etc.) for this tournament is done through tabroom.com. The tournament website is: http://unlvmsdebate.tabroom.com

7) Please respect the UNLV campus

--Do not leave messes in the rooms or common areas. Pick up after yourselves. Our ability to continue hosting tournaments on our campus depends on this.

--Do not touch or move any classroom technology. Please stay away from overhead projectors, computers, keyboards, touch screens, etc.

8) HAVE FUN!!! We want every participant to have a fantastic and memorable experience here at the UNLV Middle School Invitational Tournament!

We look forward to seeing you all soon at UNLV!!!

Sincerely,

Dr. Jake Thompson and the UNLV Debate Team