



# IHSAA Speech Contest Commonly Asked ??'s for Parents/Guardians

**1. Are performance times exact?** No. Plan on arriving to your student's center *at least 1/2 hour early*. Most often, centers run ahead of time.

**2. Are videotaping and photography allowed?** NO videotaping or photography is permissible. In fact, it may disqualify the performing school.

**3. May a PV logo (ie. a sweatshirt with PVHS) be worn?** Refrain from all apparel that informs the judge of what school the participants are from.

**4. Are students permitted to leave after they are finished performing?** ALL students are expected to remain until the final PV performances. As a team, we need to support each and every member of our IHSSA family. Also, please have all students eat at the school. We want to support the host school with their fundraising efforts.

**5. What are the qualifications of the judges?** ALL IHSSA judges have gone through training and certification. Please accept your student's ratings with pride and dignity. Adhere to proper sportsmanship at all times.

**6. If I don't know where/when my student performs what should I do?** DO make sure you Do know ahead of time your student's times and locations. Please do not rely on the head office, as the contest managers are extremely busy. Students WILL know the schedule the week of the contest. Check out [www.pleasval.org/theatre](http://www.pleasval.org/theatre) for the most current information.

**7. How are ratings given?** At Districts, one judge critiques the performance with a I, II, III, or Disqualification IV rating. The judge also gives an oral critique. (Except for One Act Play at District. OAP at District has three judges and no oral critiques are given.) Only those receiving a I rating advance to State. At State, three judges critique the performance. No oral critique is given. Only those performances that receive at least two All-State nominations AND also are in the upper percentages of point ratings advance to All-State. At the All-State Festival, a professional artist adjudicates the performance. All-State is not a competition, but a celebration of excellence.

**8. Can anyone come to contest?** Yes, all are invited. There is usually a **\$3 donation** that is asked of all audience members at the main door for Districts and State. Admission is charged at All-State.

**9. May I watch any group perform?** Yes, and you are encouraged to watch students from other schools as well as other categories.

**10. If I have a question/concern about my child's rating, what should I do?** Visit with Mrs. Myatt in person. Consider the implications of "chain of command" at your work place. Mrs. Myatt is the best person (besides your student) that will be able to supply you with the most complete information and insight.

**Christina Myatt**

Pleasant Valley High School IHSSA Director  
604 Belmont Road  
Bettendorf, IA 52722  
[myattchristina@pleasval.org](mailto:myattchristina@pleasval.org)