



Wisconsin High School  
Forensic Association  
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“Not to defeat each other, but to pace one another on the road to excellence.”

## WHSFA Constitution Vote Cast this Fall

A committee of the Board of Control met this summer to clear up outdated language in the WHSFA Constitution so that it reflects clearly the current operation of WHSFA. Rick Braun, Waunakee High School, Roxi Wakeen, Baldwin-Woodville High School and Nancy Herbison, Tomahawk High School met with director Chuck Malone and worked on the present constitution. On

September 15, the Board of Control passed the new constitution which now needs to be ratified by 50% of the membership.

Your District Chair will be sending you a pdf file of the new constitution or you can find a copy on the web site for your vote. It is imperative that your school helps to ratify the updated constitution.

# VOTE!



# WHSFA

WISCONSIN HIGH SCHOOL FORENSIC ASSOCIATION

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## WHSFA is Going Green!

Starting this past summer WHSFA has attempted to go green by doing more communication via email than through traditional forms of communication. Our reason is two fold: first, teachers do not need any more pieces of paper on their desks than they presently have and, secondly we are trying to save money for the organization so that we can pass that savings on to the membership.

Our first attempt came by Linda sending out all Adjudication notifications through an email announcement with an attached renewal test. She first sent all the notices to the adjudicators' home emails and secondly, to the adjudicators school emails address if known. If the first two attempts failed, she mailed the notices and tests to the adjudicators. We were very pleased with the results and will continue to do our renewals

in the future via email. If you are unsure we have your correct email, please let us know by emailing: [linda@whsfa.org](mailto:linda@whsfa.org) with the correct address.



This fall we will continue to go green by not mailing the new ballots for Public Address, Storytelling, Moments in History and Special Occasion but put the new ballots instead on the web site so you can download them for your handbook.

HINT: to make sure you receive the newsletter and other communications from the WHSFA State Office, send us an email first to open your school's email service to us: [director@whsfa.org](mailto:director@whsfa.org).

## Mentors Needed

The WHSFA State Office is trying to find mentor coaches for first year coaches. In recognition of how difficult it can be to take over a speech, theatre or debate program, we have decided to find mentor coaches to walk the new coaches through the first year of coaching.

So far we have Sharon Easley of Lodi High school working with Mike Spevacek of Edgewood High School and Shauna Wessely working with Sue Franz of Beloit Memorial High School. Hopefully others of you will step forward and offer to be a mentor to a new coach in your district.



## Shauna Wessely, Milton High School, Served as a Summer Intern

WHSFA was fortunate this summer to have Shauna Wessely, forensic coach from Milton High School, intern for 150 hours with WHSFA. Shauna is pursuing a master's degree from UW-Whitewater which required her to do a summer internship and she selected to do it with WHSFA.

Shauna attended all WHSFA advisories and took minutes and followed up meetings with tasks such as rewriting articles and creating documents to be used in adjudicating WHSFA Theatre Festivals.

Most importantly, however, was the fact that Shauna wrote several grant proposals for WHSFA to help with costs of running Middle Level Festivals and State Theatre Festivals. We are still awaiting the results of the grant writing.



## Category Changes for 2010-2011

**MOMENTS IN HISTORY:**  
The time period of 1850-1880

**STORYTELLING:**  
A Story with Fantastical Creatures  
A Story from India  
A Story about Luck  
A Story with Insects

**SPECIAL OCCASION:**  
After Dinner Speech at a Civic Organization  
Announcement of a New Product  
Presentation of a Proposal to a Service Organization  
Motivational Speech to Elementary School Students

**PUBLIC ADDRESS:**  
**SEX EDUCATION:** what sex education curriculum, if any, should be taught in public schools?

**STEM CELL RESEARCH:** what are the potential benefits or harms, if any, of embryonic stem cell research?

**TEXTBOOKS:** to what extent, if any, should special interest groups (such as the state school boards of Texas or California) influence public school textbook content across the country?

**24/7 NEWS CYCLE:** to what extent, if any, does the immediacy of the 24/7 news cycle (cable news, twitter, Facebook, RSS feeds, blogs) help or hinder the public's ability to understand the complexity of current events?

## Middle Level Topics for 2010-2011

**MOMENTS IN HISTORY:**  
The time period of 1850-1880

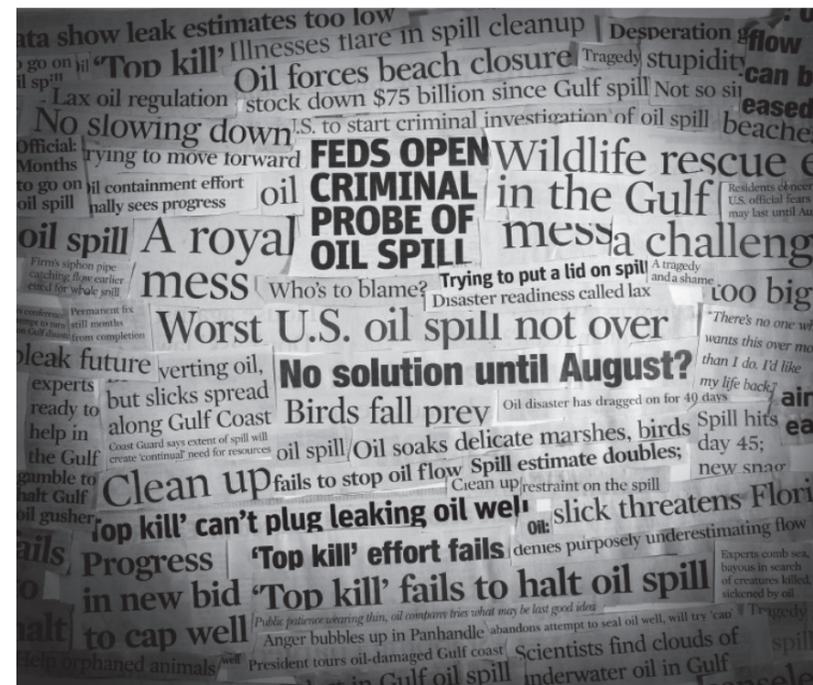
**EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING QUESTIONS:**

1. Was the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico preventable? Why or why not?
2. Describe two of three long-term effects of the oil spill on the ecosystem of the Gulf of Mexico.
3. Describe two or three short-term effects of the oil spill on the economy of Gulf Coast states.
4. What are the alternative energy sources that could be expanded to reduce our country's need for oil?
5. Is the U.S. government responsible for cleaning up this man-made accident?
6. What additional safeguards should be in place to prevent a similar accident in the future?

7. Do the benefits of producing oil locally outweigh the harmful effects of accidents on our ecosystem? Explain why or why not.
8. Describe how you think transportation will change in the United States in the next 30 years.
9. Are you satisfied with BP, the oil company in charge of the Gulf drilling, regarding its response to the crisis? Describe why or why not.

**SPECIAL OCCASION SPEAKING:**

1. Address the Board of Education or Parent Advisory Committee
2. Speech to promote a Service Learning Project
3. Speech to welcome home a local leader
4. Address your class about a local historic site



## WHSFA Welcomes New Board of Control Chairs

Andy Wolfe, Superior High School, will now be representing District 1. Andy has been coaching at Superior High School for a number of years and is replacing Steve High who has stepped down from the Board.

Christina Fern-Denzer, Menomonie High School, has been appointed to a one year

term to replace Jeff Ayer, New Richmond, who is out for the year due to illness as District 3 Chair. Christina currently serves WHSFA as the Section I representative to the Speech Advisory.

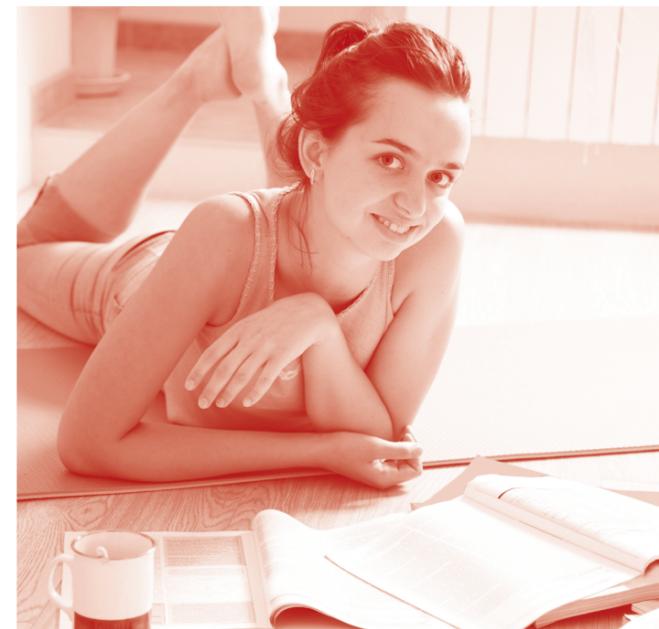
Shauna Wessely, Milton High School, has been appointed to a one year District 11 Chair replacing Nancy Domanski

who moved this summer to the east coast. Shauna also runs a successful youth forensic camp at UW-Whitewater.

WHSFA wants to thank these educators for stepping forth to help lead the organization. Contact information for them can be found on the website - [www.whsfa.org](http://www.whsfa.org).

## Senior Level Expands Number of Entries in Prose, Poetry and Farrago

The Board of Control took action at the fall Board of Control Meeting to increase the number of entries a school can have in the area of Prose Reading, Poetry Reading and Farrago to 12 entries instead of 10. The team total, however, still cannot exceed 25 entries.



## Speech Advisory Makes Language Change for Extemp Speaking

The advisory committee recommended that the language for sources for Extemporaneous Speaking be changed in the Speech Handbook. There was discussion at The Board of Control Meeting on the caliber of sources for student research. The language been changed to "Questions will be based on current news events, and questions will be drawn from sources such as *Newsweek*, *Time*, and *U.S. News and World Report*."

## Middle Level Substitution Change

There are times when a student becomes ill at the last minute or another emergency occurs, and then a group cannot perform. The Middle Level Advisory asked the Board of Control to change the language so that another member of the Middle Level Forensic team could replace an ill member. The new language will read: "In the event of a family or health emergency situation, another team member may be substituted in a group category."

