

# What is Forensics?

**forensics** *n* \fə-`ren-ziks\

1. The art and study of using the spoken word with accompanying gestures and movement to convince, to explain, and/or to stir emotions in the listener.

Welcome!

The Middle Level Forensics Association of Wisconsin is an organization that gives **middle school students** across the state the opportunity to have fun while developing and improving their speaking abilities.

Students can participate in a variety of categories that emphasize the use of the spoken word to convince, explain, or entertain. Students can work alone, with a partner, or as part of a group. Depending on the category, the material can be serious or humorous and can be memorized, read from a script, or delivered using notes. Some of the categories allow the students to prepare original material while others use prose, poetry or a speech written by others.

## We hope you will consider this fun extracurricular opportunity.

### What is forensics?

Forensics is an extracurricular activity for students who like group speaking, want to learn better communication skills, and like to have **FUN** with other middle school students!

### Who can join?

Any student in 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade is eligible to join.

### What would I be doing?

A student chooses from a variety of categories and with the help of coaches, prepares a presentation for competition at meets held in schools throughout the Milwaukee area.

### When is the Forensics season?

#### Forensics Calendar:

October 12: Pizza Party/Informational Meeting  
2:30-4:00 (Early Dismissal) in the Library

November 1<sup>st</sup>: Have your piece selected

November 9<sup>th</sup>: 1<sup>st</sup> Practice with selected piece  
2:30 (Early Dismissal)

November 30<sup>th</sup>: Lunchtime Practice  
Participants eat lunch in a designated area and practice their piece with a partner.

December 7<sup>th</sup>: Lunchtime Practice  
Participants eat lunch in a designated area and practice their piece with a partner.

January 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>

Weekly practices begin. Students must sign up to practice during one of the following times each week:

- Lunch time
- After school in library
- 6:30-7:30 in study room at Whitefish Bay Library

At least one coach will be available during these times.

Meets begin at the end of January and run through March. We will compete in 5 or 6 meets. (please turn over)

**Who is coaching Forensics?**

Anne Cyganiak, Norma Herbers, and Gerri McBride are the parent coordinators and will be the main coaches.

**We will welcome any parents who wish to help with coaching at any of the dates listed on the Forensics Calendar!**

Parents of Forensics members are required to assist with carpools to the meets and are STRONGLY encouraged to judge two meets during the season (a judging training session will be offered).

**How do I sign up?**

Please fill out the registration form below and bring it along with a \$35 fee (checks made out to St. Monica School) and bring it to the informational meeting on October 12<sup>th</sup>. Fees cover State Forensics dues, meet fees, and an end of the year celebration.

If you are unsure about joining, please come to the informational meeting, enjoy some pizza, and ask more questions!!!

**Please contact the following coaches for further information:**

**Anne Cyganiak**  
963-8941

[annecyganiak@wi.rr.com](mailto:annecyganiak@wi.rr.com)

**Norma Herbers**  
962-9193

[normaherbers@earthlink.net](mailto:normaherbers@earthlink.net)

**Gerri McBride**  
540-2392

[mcbridegerri@yahoo.com](mailto:mcbridegerri@yahoo.com)

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My child \_\_\_\_\_ has permission to join the St. Monica Forensics Team. I have included the \$35 fee. I understand that I will assist with carpool responsibilities and will judge two meets during the season (a judging training session will be offered).

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Parent Signature

Please return on October 12<sup>th</sup> at our after school Pizza Party/ Informational Meeting.