

# **Course Syllabus**

## **Course Title: Public Speaking, Debate, and TEDx Talk**

- ❖ Grades: 6–10
- ❖ Total Lessons: 24 lessons (50 minutes each)
- ❖ Project: CCC Chinese School TEDx Talk Showcase (tentatively in April)
- ❖ Course Schedule: Sundays, 2:50pm-3:40pm, September 7th 2025~May 10th 2026
- ❖ Course Location: Shaker Middle School, 475 Watervliet Shaker Rd, Latham, NY 12110

### **Course Highlights:**

- Open to all experience levels—beginners and advanced students welcome
  - Peer-led and highly interactive
  - Prepares students for school presentations, leadership roles, and speaking competitions
  - Builds lifelong confidence and communication skills
- 

### **Unit 1: Foundations of Public Speaking (Lessons 1–4)**

Goal: Build comfort and confidence with speaking in front of others

- Lesson 1: Icebreakers & Confidence-Building Activities
  - Lesson 2: Voice, Body Language, and Stage Presence
  - Lesson 3: Audience Awareness & Purposeful Speaking
  - Lesson 4: Impromptu Speaking Games & Practice
- 

### **Unit 2: Debate Basics & Critical Thinking (Lessons 5–8)**

Goal: Learn the structure and skills of formal debate

- Lesson 5: What is Debate? Key Terms & Types
  - Lesson 6: Building Strong Arguments (Claims, Evidence, Reasoning)
  - Lesson 7: Rebuttals, Refutation, and Persuasive Speaking
  - Lesson 8: Mini-Debates in Pairs & Groups
- 

### **Unit 3: TEDx Talk Introduction & Topic Brainstorm (Lessons 9–11)**

Goal: Begin TEDx project with topic exploration

- Lesson 9: What Makes a Great TEDx Talk? Watch & Discuss
  - Lesson 10: Brainstorming Personal Passions & “Ideas Worth Spreading”
  - Lesson 11: Choosing a Topic & Outlining a Message
- 

## **Unit 4: Speech Writing & Workshop (Lessons 12–15)**

Goal: Write and refine TEDx talk drafts

- Lesson 12: Crafting a Powerful Opening
  - Lesson 13: Organizing Ideas Clearly (Beginning–Middle–End)
  - Lesson 14: Adding Storytelling, Humor, and Personal Touch
  - Lesson 15: Peer Review & Constructive Feedback
- 

## **Unit 5: Debate Rounds & Speaking Practice (Lessons 16–18)**

Goal: Reinforce speaking under pressure and structured arguments

- Lesson 16: Debate Round 1: Friendly Competition
  - Lesson 17: Strategy Review & Speaker Feedback
  - Lesson 18: Debate Round 2: Team Debate
- 

## **Unit 6: TEDx Talk Practice & Polish (Lessons 19–22)**

Goal: Prepare TEDx speeches for showcase

- Lesson 19: Practicing with Partners & Coaches
  - Lesson 20: Delivery Skills: Voice, Timing, and Emotion
  - Lesson 21: Full-Length Practice with Peer Feedback
  - Lesson 22: Dress Rehearsal & Final Edits
- 

## **Unit 7: Showcase & Reflection (Lessons 23–24)**

Goal: Present final TEDx talks and reflect on growth

- Lesson 23: TEDx Talk Showcase Event (in-school presentation day)
  - Lesson 24: Award & Celebration
-