



Proclamation No. 23-0371

A Proclamation Celebrating The George Washington High School Speech and Debate Team State Championship

WHEREAS, the George Washington High School’s Speech & Debate Team was founded in 1960, the same year the school was opened, and has been a competitive and nationally ranked team throughout its history; and,

WHEREAS, the George Washington High School Speech and Debate Team is currently ranked in the top five nationally, and has previously won three individual national titles and 28 individual state titles; and

WHEREAS, faculty member Maryrose Kohan teaches five sections of Speech and Debate, as well as coaching the Speech and Debate team along with Assistant Coaches Devin Sarno and Miles Owens; and

WHEREAS, Coach Kohan was awarded the 2023 Sharon Wilch Lifetime Achievement Award for her work in Speech and Debate; and,

WHEREAS, the George Washington High School Speech and Debate Team members and coaches put in countless extra hours of work honing their performances during the season; and,

WHEREAS, 48 of the 165 students enrolled in a section of Speech and Debate class at George Washington High School competed in the 5A Division of the Colorado State Championships on March 17th & 18th, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the George Washington High School Speech and Debate Team won two individual titles, Meg Parent in Lincoln Douglas Debate and Ivan Levitt in Original Oratory, and had 15 top five finishes; and

WHEREAS, based on these results, the George Washington High School Speech and Debate Team was awarded the overall 2023 Division 5A State Title in Speech and Debate; and

WHEREAS, the George Washington High School Speech and Debate Team will travel to the national championships to compete in June.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:

Section 1. That the Council of the City and County of Denver recognizes and celebrates the achievements of the students and coaches of the George Washington High School Speech and Debate Team, and congratulates them on their success.

Section 2. That the Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that a copy be transmitted to Coach Maryrose Kohan.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL April 3, 2023

COUNCIL PRESIDENT