

Cogito Debate

The Weekly Debate Chronicle

Issue No. 8 | May 12, 2025



At Cogito Debate, we are so grateful for our hardworking coaches. Their passion and dedication are the heart of our program. Cogito wouldn't be who we are without them — they inspire our students and community every single day. Thank you for all you do!

Insightful Updates

We're excited to share our 8th newsletter with you! The next two weeks are packed with exciting events — from tournament prep to wrapping up the spring semester and getting ready for summer. Stay tuned for more updates!

Summer is just around the corner, and we can't wait for camp to begin! Registration is still open, so if you haven't signed up yet, there's still time to join us for an exciting and enriching summer experience.



Announcements

- ✓ This past weekend, our students competed in a tournament and represented Cogito Debate with incredible effort and enthusiasm. We're so proud of their hard work and growth – great job to all who participated!
- ✓ We're gearing up for the OCDL Championships this coming weekend! Let's cheer on our students as they prepare for another exciting round of competition. Best of luck to everyone competing!

Reminders



Registration for our summer programs is still open! While our early bird discount has ended, there's still time to sign up and secure your spot. We can't wait to see you this summer!

Parents:

- ✦ Parent chaperone forms for the upcoming OCDL tournament will be sent out this week! If you're interested in chaperoning, keep an eye on your inbox – we'd love to have your support at the event.

Read More About Us

www.cogitodebate.com

THIS
WEEK!



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Emma Chang

One of my favorite things I've learned at Cogito is how to become a stronger, more confident speaker. It's helped me a lot - not just in debate, but in everyday life, especially with public speaking and writing. Outside of Cogito, I love robotics, coding, and tennis. A favorite memory of mine is the end-of-year pool party - or honestly, just the classes from last year!

I hope to improve my organizational speaking and one of my goals is to start a Parli or LD team at my high school. I'm also aiming to get to States for VEX V5 robotics next year.

My advice to new students? Don't give up. When I started in 5th grade, I cried when I lost - but I'm so glad I stuck with it!

Fun fact: I'm a big K-pop fan (yes, even my judges have noticed my posters during tournaments 😂). I look up to people like Alex Albon, Carlos Sainz, and my sister Avery Chang for all they've accomplished.

Cogito has truly helped me grow - and I'm really proud to be part of this community!



Parents message

XOXO

Some fun facts about Emma: She's a big K-pop fan, especially of Stray Kids. Even though she doesn't speak Korean, she's memorized all their songs in Korean - her favorite member is Li Know because "he's the funniest." Emma also loves staying organized and is known to reorganize the pantry and fridge just for fun. Recently, she completed a 19.3-mile running challenge at Disneyland (a 10K and half marathon!) because she made a promise to her dad and was determined to keep it. She shows dedication, heart, and joy in everything she does - and we're incredibly proud of her every single day.

Student Tips for Success

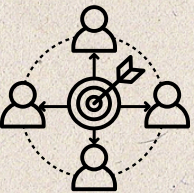
Treat Every Speech Like a Performance

Think of your round like a stage – your voice, facial expressions, and energy are part of the show! When you engage your audience like a storyteller, not just a speaker, you're more likely to persuade, connect, and stand out. Debate isn't just about arguing – it's about captivating.

Fun Facts & Challenges



People who participate in speech and debate often develop faster processing speed and stronger memory skills – studies have shown that debaters can recall information more quickly under pressure than non-debaters. It's like a workout for your brain!



One-Minute Impromptu Challenge!

Pick a random object around you – like a pen, a shoe, or a water bottle – and give a 1-minute speech convincing someone why it's the most important invention ever. No prep time, just go!

