



# Fairfax Collegiate DEBATE SOCIETY

## Why Debate?

- Fun way to learn logic and communication skills.
- Debate every week with stand-up presentations. Learn voice control, eye contact, and good posture.
- Learn how to build persuasive arguments, how to choose powerful evidence, and how to rebut the opposition.
- Led by skilled and experienced instructors

## Fairfax Collegiate

- Largest enrichment provider in Northern Virginia, with over 3,000 students attending in 2019.
- Serving students in Northern Virginia for over 25 years, since 1993.
- Excellent testimonials. For example, "My son really enjoyed this class. The instructor was superb and managed to ignite a passion for debate in my son."

**Grades:** 3-6

**Location:** Forest Edge Elementary School in the Cafeteria

**Dates:** Mondays, Feb 3 - Mar 30 (no class 2/17)

**Time:** 3:45 - 4:45 pm

**Cost:** \$155 for eight 1-hour classes

**Registration:** Register at [www.FairfaxCollegiate.com/Forest-Edge](http://www.FairfaxCollegiate.com/Forest-Edge) or contact Kathryn at [fees.aspchair@gmail.com](mailto:fees.aspchair@gmail.com) for more info

**[www.FairfaxCollegiate.com](http://www.FairfaxCollegiate.com)**

**703 481-3080 • [Debate@FairfaxCollegiate.com](mailto:Debate@FairfaxCollegiate.com)**



# Fairfax Collegiate Debate Society at Forest Edge Elementary School

Fairfax Collegiate is the largest enrichment provider to elementary, middle, and high schools in Northern Virginia. This past summer some 3,000 students attended Fairfax Collegiate summer programs at 10 locations throughout Northern Virginia. Students participated in some 60 different subjects, ranging from debate to creative writing to robotics to filmmaking.

This year Fairfax Collegiate started the Debate Society for 3rd-6th grade after-school programs. The Debate Society meets once a week for eight weeks. It provides instruction in both public speaking and the logical structure of argument.

Each week features a different debate topic. These start with topics of personal interest to students, such as whether school uniforms should be required, and progress to more general topics, such as whether U.S. citizens should be required to vote in national elections.

Instructors give individual feedback to students after every debate.

## Course Topics

**Public Speaking.** Students learn how to make a stand-up presentation before an audience, including voice projection, proper posture, and maintaining eye contact with the audience.

**Logical Argument.** Students learn exactly what is a logical proposition, and how to build a logical argument.

**Logical Fallacies.** Students learn common logical fallacies, such as circular reasoning and attacking a straw man.

**Evidence.** Students learn how to use evidence to support a logical argument. They study different kinds of evidence, such as statistical data, historical facts, and personal experience.

**Points of view.** Students learn to recognize different points of view, for example, that parents, students, teachers, and school administrators are likely to have different points of view regarding a requirement that all students wear a school uniform.