

2014 REGION IMPROMPTU SPEAKING TOPIC

Please do not let students take the topic out of the writing room.

There are many characteristics that make an effective teacher. What qualities do feel are most important for a teacher to be effective? Explain why and what kind of impact these qualities have on students learning.

2015 TAFE STATE – IMPROMPTU SPEAKING TOPIC

William Davis said, “The kind of humor I like is the thing that makes me laugh for five seconds and think for 10 minutes.” Should humor be used in the classroom? If so why? What are some acceptable ways you could use it in your classroom?

2015 REGION IMPROMPTU SPEAKING TOPIC

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The five senses are touch, taste, sight, smell, and hearing.

Of these five senses, which one (1) do you believe is the most essential to being a successful educator? Why?

2016 REGION IMPROMPTU SPEAKING TOPIC

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Are School Lunches Healthy?

With the rise in obesity in today’s youth, decreasing childhood obesity by encouraging healthy eating habits has become an issue of national importance. Controversy has risen in recent months over the nutritional value of school lunches. What do you think can be done to improve the nutritional value of school lunches? Explain.

2017 STATE IMPROMPTU SPEAKING TOPIC

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Should Struggling Students Repeat a Grade?

For years, students who did not meet the criteria to pass on to the next grade, have been retained in that grade to repeat it again. This was done because the student needs to master that set of skills before advancing to the next grade. However, in recent years, studies have found that students who have been held back suffer long term losses and are emotionally devastated. Students who are retained are usually older than the other students in their class and more likely to

drop out. If students are not going to be retained, what do you think should be done to help them get the skills they need so that they can be successful in future grades?

2017 REGION IMPROMPTU SPEAKING

Statistically parental involvement declines after the elementary years. Discuss the importance of parent involvement throughout the middle and high school years, as well as ideas to increase parental involvement during these years.

2018 STATE IMPROMPTU SPEAKING -

Technology in education is always a trendy and hot button topic in education. Discuss the educational benefits of technology in terms of how online tools can be utilized to enhance content mastery and facilitate student collaboration and communication.

2018 REGION IMPROMPTU SPEAKING TOPIC

Do not take this prompt out of the planning room. Please give it to the room monitor.

Parent involvement is crucial in the success of the classroom. No matter their income or background, students with involved parents are more likely to have higher grades and test scores, attend school regularly, better social skills, show improved behavior, and adapt well to school. With so many households with both parents working full-time jobs, how can teachers encourage their involvement in the classroom?

2019 STATE IMPROMPTU SPEAKING TOPIC

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In an article titled “Why Every Classroom Should Teach Digital Citizenship” by Paul Barnwell, Teacher of English & Digital Media, Mr. Barnwell gives 5 reasons why schools should take a lead by promoting digital and social media literacies curriculum and **promoting digital citizenship** inside and outside of the classroom. Do you think schools should teach about social media literacies and digital citizenship or stay out of it? Give reasons to support your belief.

2019 Region Impromptu Speaking Topic

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Are cell phones helpful or harmful to the learning environment?

Cell phone and technology are a fact of modern life, but how do they affect the classroom? Educational Apps provide student involvement and enrichment. Many students claim that listening to music while working helps them concentrate.

Teachers claim that students are more off task and lack focus. Most college professors do not allow phones during class. Some professors eject students caught using devices.

If you were a teacher, would you allow phones in your classroom? What rules or procedures would you set to ensure success?

Explain.

2020 Region Impromptu Speaking Topic

Please do not let students take this out of the planning room.

It has been said that teaching online must be different than in class instruction. From a student perspective, why do you think this is, and what do you think would make online instruction better?

Other Impromptu Topics

How Do You Meet the Needs of Your Students?

As young educators, you know your job is to teach all students. But that's easier said than done. How do you meet the needs of 30 different students who come to you with a variety of learning styles, strengths, and weaknesses?

Is Homework Effective?

There are two schools of thought when it comes to homework. Some believe that students should have homework to reinforce and practice what was learned during class. The old adage that practice makes perfect seems to make sense when it comes to schoolwork. On the other hand, many in the education field today are looking for evidence to support the case for homework but are coming up empty-handed. "Homework is all pain and no gain," says author Alfie Kohn. In his book *The Homework Myth*, Kohn points out that no study has ever found a correlation between homework and academic achievement in elementary school, and there is little reason to believe that homework is necessary in high school. In fact, it may even diminish interest in learning, says Kohn.

As a student, do you feel like homework helps to reinforce what students learn in class or do you feel it is a waste of time? Why? Do you feel that there are certain types of work done outside the classroom that are beneficial or should all work be done in class? Why?