Impromptu Speaking Competition

Contest Purpose
Poise, self-confidence, and the ability to use effective oral communication skills while under pressure are valuable qualities of all educators. This competition is designed to recognize students who demonstrate these qualities by combining clear thinking and conversational speaking into a coherent presentation on a current education-related topic.

Eligibility for Entry
A. Participants must be middle or high school students who are members of the local chapter’s Educators Rising.
B. Participants must be registered for the conference in order to participate in the competition.
C. The registration deadline for the Impromptu Speaking Competition is October 8, 2015.

Guidelines
A. One 4”x 6” index card will be given to each contestant during the preparation time and may be used during the presentation. Contestants may write notes on both sides of the index card.
B. Preparation must be done solely by the contestant. Teacher leaders or others may not assist during preparation or presentation.
C. Each presentation is to be a minimum of two minutes and a maximum of four minutes. A timekeeper will record the time used by each contestant, noting deductions of three points for each full half-minute (30 seconds) over the four-minute maximum or under the two-minute minimum. The judges will stop any speech that exceeds five minutes. Contestants will receive a visual, non-verbal indication that there is one minute remaining when they reach the three-minute mark of their speeches.
D. All contestants will receive and speak on the same topic. The topic will be related to a current, education-related issue.
E. The contestant will have 10 minutes to prepare his or her speech.
F. A lectern may or may not be available for the presentation. No microphone will be available.
G. Students may not share the topic with anyone after completing their speech.

Judging and Scoring
A. The judges’ decisions are final.
B. Scoring is based on the Impromptu Speaking Competition rubric.
Judge’s Impromptu Speaking Competition Rubric

School: ________________________________

A. ADHERENCE TO GUIDELINES AND CONSTRAINTS
   Length of presentation is within the given time constraints
   (at least 2 minutes, but not more than 4 minutes) 10___

B. CONTENT AND DELIVERY
   Depth of understanding of the multiple factors and points of view
   involved in the topic 15___
   Degree of insight and useful ideas offered concerning the topic 15___
   Structure and sequence of the presentation 15___
   Eye contact, posture, and professional demeanor 15___
   Clarity of voice, pacing, and modulation of tone 15___
   Overall impact of the presentation 15___

   TOTAL SCORE 100 ___

Judge’s Comments:

Judge’s Signature _______________________________ Date___________________