

Editorial Page

Speeches and Declamations

By Katie Jelich

Though they may be annoying to some people, speeches and declamations prepare you for the rest of your life.

It may be hard or embarrassing to get up in front of classmates and friends and talk about a given topic, but that's the point. Later in life, depending on what you grow up to be, you'll have to give speeches and presentations, or at least have to apply for a job with a complete stranger. But then you can look back and remember the training you have had at talking in front of people and will get through it like you have been doing since 3rd grade.

Speeches don't have to make you nervous. The main reason why people get nervous is because they aren't prepared, or they feel as if they are being judged. If you practice your speech in front of a family member, or even in front of a mirror, you will be confident. If you practice your speech over and over again, then you will be prepared. If you look out into the audience, and feel like you're being judged, pretend everyone is in their underwear and look at their foreheads rather than directly into their eyes.

Doing declamations may also be nerve-wracking. But, if you start learning your declamation early in the month, and learn it little by little, you'll have enough time to learn it carefully and should know it enough to recite it easily.

Though it may be difficult to get through declamations and speeches, later in life you'll find that you won't regret it and that it has provided you with skills that are very valuable.



Q&A

When Madame Stiehr took part in Brookfield's Middle School evening program recently, she talked to parents about what she sees as the advantages of Brookfield, both for herself and for students. The Buzz asked her to share what she told them.

Q: How long have you been at Brookfield?

A: I have chosen to stay at Brookfield for 29 years. I could have moved on at some point, but I really like being here.

Q: Why have you stayed?

A: I truly enjoy the students, the teachers, and the parents.

Q: What do you think makes Brookfield a good place to learn?

A: I feel that because of the small class sizes, I can give more attention and get more interaction from every student. Also each year I'm able to have the same students, which gives me the opportunity to connect personally with them. We connect outside, as well as in, French class.

Q: Do you feel that students are well prepared for high school when they leave Brookfield?

A: Yes. All of the things that make this a place where I want to stay are the same things that are good for students. I've talked to a lot of my students after they move on to high school and they invariably are doing well.

Mystery Teacher

By Lauren Michelson
Who is this familiar Brookfield face?

Hints:

- This person is married.
- This person has 2 daughters.
- This person was born in Missouri.
- This person has a sister 21 years older than her and a brother 16 years older than this person.

See next month's Buzz for the answer.



Last month's Mystery Teacher was Mrs. Martin