

BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Extra Duty Activity (EDA)

Name of EDA:	Forensics
School Level:	High

Description of Activity: Forensics is the art of formal public speaking and presentation. Forensics typically includes: debate; oratorical declamation; dramatic performance; extemporaneous speaking; oral interpretation of literature; original oratory; and duo interpretation of literature. Under the direction of the principal, the forensics sponsor: recruits students; teaches them how to research, develop, practice, and deliver their performances; organizes and supervises students participating in forensics competitions and tournaments; and evaluates and judges student presentations.

The forensics sponsor must be well organized; possess excellent oral and written communication skills; have a knowledge of/strong interest in public speaking; be able to evaluate student presentations objectively; be willing to arrange and organize competitions locally; and plan and supervise students who attend state, regional, and national forensics tournaments. Typically, forensics sponsors have a background in speech, drama, social studies, or English.

Link to the Blueprint for Progress: The forensics sponsor supports the school system’s mission to provide a quality education for all students. Forensics assists in meeting the *Blueprint’s* Performance Goal 1, Strategy 1.g, by providing students with the opportunity to participate in a variety of music, art, athletic, and extracurricular activities.

<i>Examples of Specific Duties of this EDA Sponsor</i>	<i>Estimated Hours</i>
Planning and Preparation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruit students (e.g., morning announcements, flyers, posters, general “get acquainted” EDA meeting, school newspaper) • Arrange after-school meeting schedule (e.g., place on school’s master calendar, secure meeting locations, and times) • Organize and supervise student participation in competitions • Make travel arrangements for students participating in out-of-state competitions/tournaments • Meet/Communicate with other BCPS forensics sponsors 	20 – 30
Typical Class Activities, Events and Fundraisers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teach students the art of forensics in all its forms • Demonstrate forensics techniques (e.g., effective debating, art of delivering an effective speech) • Sponsor fund raisers to support membership in local and national forensics organizations and attendance at competitions 	50 – 75

Other EDA Duties

70-90

- May host area forensics competition
- Evening and weekend practice/rehearsals are required
- Out-of-state travel to attend national conference
- Membership in local and national forensics organizations

Estimated Annual Hours that a Teacher Might Spend to Sponsor this EDA: 140 – 210+

Minimum Number of Students Required: 7 – 10

Average Student Contact Hours per Week: 2 – 4 (Hours will vary. Competition preparation may require extended practice)

Annual Compensation

Forensics is a Level II, Level III, and Level IV activity.