

Governing Board

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2015-16 CDL Incentives

We are pleased to announce that the CDC will offer up to \$29,000 in coach or school incentives and awards for high schools participating in the CDL in 2015-16. Note that we have reconfigured some awards for two reasons. First, we aim to support our key program goals for this year:

- a. Improving attendance at professional development seminars by adding a transportation stipend and maintaining the attendance incentive;
- b. Increasing the number of students attending three or more tournaments, a research-proven “tipping point” for great academic impact; and
- c. Continuing to improve the qualitative growth of students in the program.

Second, we will use certain funds previously in the incentive budget to pay coaches who serve as mentors in the mentor-coach program, in response to CPS’s elimination of funding in this category.

The incentives are described below.

Professional Development

CDL and CMSDL coaches will be provided incentives of \$100 per coach for attaining the guideline of 10 hours of professional development per semester. In addition, all coaches attending Saturday professional development workshops (not including workshops held at tournaments or PD otherwise compensated) will receive a \$15 transportation stipend. Payment will be made after the workshop. The total of professional development incentives will be capped at \$5,000.

Expanding Opportunities: increasing number of students attending 3 or more tournaments

The Expanding Opportunities program is a donor-funded program to increase participation in high schools with 80% of more Title I students. This year, Expanding Opportunities will provide awards to the squads with the highest number of students achieving the three-tournament benchmark. All CDL tournaments (T1 through T6, plus CDL invitationals) will be included in the calculation. Awards will be paid at the end of May. We will announce interim standings at the end of the first semester.

1st – 5th Place -- \$1000
6th – 10th Place -- \$500
11th – 20th Place -- \$250

The total award in this category is \$10,000.

Participation Performance: increasing number of students attending 3 or more tournaments

At the end of the year, the top 20 high schools in numbers of students attending three or more tournaments will receive awards. At the end of the first semester, we will announce the standings at that point. All high schools in the CDL are eligible. We will announce interim standings at the end of the first semester.

The top 5 schools receive \$400, 6th – 10th receive \$300, 11th – 15th receive \$200, 16th – 20th receive \$100, a total of \$5,000.

Qualitative Performance

Qualitative performance incentives are based on the Qualitative Assessment Project results. Each school will have 4 students in each division (JV and Varsity) – up to 8 total – assessed at T5 or T6 on their attainment of qualitative benchmarks, measuring how educationally developed their debating is by the end of the debate season. Each school will be given a single average qualitative rating of their debaters (on the 10 point scale that the Debater Development Benchmarks use). This single, averaged rating is called the School Debate Quality Rating, or SDQR.

The top 5 SDQRs receive \$400, 6th – 10th SDQRs receive \$300, 11th – 15th SDQRs receive \$200, 16th – 20th SDQRs receive \$100, a total of \$5,000.

City Championship Competitive Performance

This year, we have restructured our City Championship Competitive Performance incentives to award \$100 for each JV or Varsity team that reaches the Octofinals, for a total of \$3200.

Golden Gavel Award

The Golden Gavel Award honors the top coaches in the CDL and CMSDL. One finalist from each conference will be selected based on coach votes (with ties decided by CDL administration). CDL administration will choose the Golden Gavel Award winners from among the finalists. The five finalists will receive \$100 each and a handsome framed certificate. The two Golden Gavel winners, once each from the CDL and CMSDL, will receive \$300 each, along with a plaque. Total awarded is \$1100.