

## **Award-Winning Westfield Debate Team to Host Recruitment Session, Info Night**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

The Westfield Debate Team will have a recruitment and information session for rising 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade Westfield public school students on Tuesday, May 14th, from 7:30-8:30 p.m. at the Westfield High School Student Center. Our award-winning public forum debaters will square off in a demonstration debate to show potential recruits what competitive academic debate looks like.

Westfield Debate Team Co-Directors Marty Collett and Amisha Mody Mehta will answer questions, explain team requirements and distribute applications at the event. In addition, Stefan Bauschard, a Westfield Debate Team coach, and coach of many prominent debate teams including Harvard University will be available to answer questions.

Competitive debate has been shown to have many benefits, including increased academic performance and civic engagement. Debaters develop their public speaking, research, writing and critical thinking skills. Past topics have included paying college athletes, ending arms sales to Saudi Arabia, moving from the electoral college to a national vote, abolishing the capital gains tax and imposing price controls on pharmaceuticals. The Westfield Debate Team provides opportunities to compete locally and nationally.

Among its most notable successes are NJSDL State Semifinalists, Georgetown International Semi-Finalists and University of Pennsylvania Quarter-Finalists.

The Westfield Debate Team is a partnership among the Westfield PTC, the Westfield Public Schools and the Westfield Area YMCA.

Please contact [westfielddebateteam@gmail.com](mailto:westfielddebateteam@gmail.com) with any questions.

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