

# Does your school have a new or inexperienced Speech coach?

CTAM (Communication and Theater Association of Minnesota) would like to offer them the opportunity to be mentored by an experienced Speech coach.

## **Here's how the program will work:**

I will be gathering names of new and inexperienced Speech Coaches in Minnesota. These coaches will then be offered the opportunity to be connected to an experienced Speech coach who will act as their mentor for a season. Mentors and mentees will be matched based on criteria such as geographic proximity, competitive section, team size, and involvement in NFL (National Forensics League). Each participant will be given their "partner's" contact information, as well as a list of potential topics about which the new or inexperienced coach may have questions (such as Where do I find pieces? How do I recruit judges? How do invitationals differ from Section tournaments?). The mentoring relationship may be as simple as email exchanges as the season gets rolling, having the mentoring coach invite their mentee into the Tab Room at an invitational, or meeting for dinner and a discussion on category rules. If both the mentor and mentee are attending the CTAM conference in September, I will make introductions there. If both parties are not in attendance (or, if the new coach is not hired until later in the school year) I will make connections as new coaches are identified.

If you have a new or inexperienced coach who would like to be partnered with a mentor, please send an email to [jody.saxtonwest@nfld.k12.mn.us](mailto:jody.saxtonwest@nfld.k12.mn.us), and I will be in contact with you.

Thanks for your support of Speech!

Jody Saxton West, Northfield High School, CTAM Board of Governors