CITY OF WEST DES MOINES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING COMMUNICATION

ITEM: Approval of Proclamation
National Speech and Debate Education Day

DATE: February 21, 2017

FINANCIAL IMPACT: None

BACKGROUND:

The National Speech & Debate Association, in conjunction with national and local partners, honors and celebrates the importance of speech and debate through National Speech and Debate Education Day.

OUTSTANDING ISSUES (if any): None

RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of Proclamation declaring March 3, 2017 as "National Speech and Debate Education Day"

Lead Staff Member: Ryan T. Jacobson, City Clerk RTJ

STAFF REVIEWS

Department Director	Ryan T. Jacobson, City Clerk
Appropriations/Finance	
Legal	
Agenda Acceptance	RTJ

PUBLICATION(S) (if applicable)

Published In	
Dates(s) Published	

SUBCOMMITTEE REVIEW (if applicable)

Committee			
Date Reviewed			
Recommendation	Yes	No	Split

Proclamation

National Speech and Debate Education Day

March 3, 2017

Whereas, it is essential for youth to learn and practice the art of communicating, with and apart from technology;

Whereas, speech and debate education offers students myriad forms of public speaking through which to develop their talents and exercise their unique voice and character;

Whereas, speech and debate gives students the 21st Century skills of communication, critical thinking, creativity, and collaboration;

Whereas, personal, professional, and civic interactions are enhanced by their participants' abilities to listen, concur, question, and even dissent with reason and compassion;

Whereas, students who participate in speech and debate have chosen a challenging activity that requires regular practice, dedication, and hard work;

Whereas, teachers and coaches of speech and debate devote in-school, afterschool, and weekend hours to equip students with life-changing skills and opportunities;

Whereas, National Speech and Debate Education Day emphasizes the lifelong impact of citizens with the confidence and preparation to both discern and share their views;

Whereas, National Speech and Debate Education Day acknowledges that most achievements, celebrations, commemorations, and pivotal moments in modern history begin, end, or are crystallized with public address;

Whereas, National Speech and Debate Education Day recognizes that learning to research, construct, and present an argument is integral to personal advocacy, social movements, and the making of public policy;

Whereas, the National Speech & Debate Association, in conjunction with national and local partners, honors and celebrates the importance of speech and debate through National Speech and Debate Education Day; and

Whereas, National Speech and Debate Education Day emphasizes the importance and integration of speech and debate instruction across grade levels and disciplines;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Steven K. Gaer, Mayor of the City of West Des Moines, Iowa, do hereby proclaim March 3, 2017, as "National Speech and Debate Education Day" in the City of West Des Moines, Iowa, and encourage educational institutions, businesses, community and civic associations, and all citizens to celebrate and promote National Speech and Debate Education Day.

Signed this 21st day of February, 2017.

ATTEST:

Steven K. Gaer, Mayor

Ryan T. Jacobson, City Clerk