Debating Boys

Debating as a Learning Tool for the Arts and Humanities
Introduction: The Debaters

Gabriel Di Bert and Joshua Cohen
Isaac Cape and Dylan Lee
What is a Formal Debate?

- Individual or teams
- Motion or Proposal (This House Believes or Be It Resolved)
- Proposition is in favour
- Opposition is against
- Rules and times for speaking
- MUST BE ENGAGEMENT OR CLASH (there is no debate without this)
- Must be a non-partisan judge
What do we look for in a debate?

Content and Evidence
Argumentation and Reasoning
Refutation and Engagement
Public Speaking
Organization
Why for Boys?

The Obvious: Public Speaking Skills, Fallacy Identification, Making an Argument, Team and Leadership Skills.

Competitive AND Intellectual
Something that stretches the top 20%
Boys are discouraged from debating
Types of Debating

Canadian Parliamentary (Senior and Junior), Canadian National Debate Format (Senior and Junior), British Parliamentary (High School and University), World Schools Style, Individual Debate Style, Cross-X, American Policy Debate, Squirrelling, many more...

Different speaking times and focus for each
The Debate we are about to see

Canadian National Debate Format (Jr. Times) 6666/33


Opp must do the same minus the defining.

Judges: Dan Elbling, Hal Hannaford, Erin Russett

Give an RFD
The Debate
Using debate in the Classroom

Involve as many people as possible:
BP debating has 8 debaters. WSS has up to 10
3 judges (who need to give an RFD)
1 moderator/speaker
1 time-keeper
Strategies for a good Debate

Relevant to the class
Time to prepare (but not too much time)
Make it a competitive event
Pitfalls

Debates that aren’t actually debates
Debates that will almost certainly offend
Biased Judges (can be mitigated)
Useful References

Debating:
- [www.qsda.org/resources](http://www.qsda.org/resources)
- Academic Conversations: Classroom Talk that Fosters Critical Thinking and Content Understandings by Jeff Zwiers and Marie Crawford
- Debating by Simon Quin

Boys and Debating
- Why Young Men? by Jamil Jivani

Motions:
- [www.hellomotions.com](http://www.hellomotions.com)
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