

From: [Humphrey, Clifford](#)
Cc: [Hebda, Kathy](#)
Subject: Florida Civics and Debate Initiative
Date: Wednesday, July 2, 2025 1:59:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

Chief Academic Officers,

Please see the email below from the Director of the Florida Civics and Debate Initiative about an exciting opportunity for our colleges.

Happy Independence Day!

Best,

Clifford Humphrey, Ph.D.
Executive Vice Chancellor
Florida College System
325 W. Gaines Street, Suite 1244
Tallahassee, FL 32399
850-245-9903 (Office)

Dear Academic Affairs Team,

I hope this message finds you well. I'm reaching out on behalf of the Florida Civics and Debate Initiative (FCDI) to explore potential partnerships with Florida College System institutions interested in hosting regional debate tournaments during the upcoming academic year.

FCDI provides middle and high school students across the state with transformative opportunities to develop critical thinking, public speaking, and civic knowledge through competitive speech and debate. As we continue to expand, we are seeking accessible and welcoming venues to accommodate these events—which often draw students, educators, and families from across the region.

Hosting an FCDI tournament is a meaningful way to support civic education while highlighting your institution's commitment to student engagement and academic excellence. As an additional benefit to collegiate partners, hosting an FCDI tournament will also be an excellent recruiting opportunity as a chance to attract talented high schoolers for college enrollment. We would be happy to discuss potential dates, logistics, and the support FCDI can provide to make hosting as easy and rewarding as possible.

Please let us know if your campus would be interested in learning more. We're grateful for your consideration and look forward to the possibility of working together.

Warm Regards,

John Duebel
Director of the Florida Civics and Debate Initiative
Florida Department of Education
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