

**DATE:** March 29, 2018

### **DSHS WINS UIL DISTRICT ACADEMIC COMPETITION**

Dripping Springs High School has won the UIL District 26-5A academic competition, which includes results in Speech and Debate, Academic/Journalism events, and One-Act Play. DSHS totaled 372 points, topping second-place Boerne Champion High School by a 63-point margin.

Multiple students took first place in their respective events: Katie Haberman in Feature Writing, Ken Gossett in Spelling, Varun Verma in Computer Applications, Gabrielle Avenue in Literary Criticism, the Computer Science Team (Ryan Gahagan, Keon Williams, Jarrod Showacre), and the Literary Criticism Team (Gabrielle Avena, Hannah Huzzey, Ashley McCoy, Sydney Hetherington). All of those students will advance to regional competition.

Several students also took second place: the Current Events Team (Kenton Borgonah, Nikhil Clayton, Alex Yount), Kristen Erlon in Computer Applications, and Giselle Galletti in Headline News.

Three students placed third place: Giselle Galletti in Feature Writing and in Computer Applications, Ryan Gahagan in Mathematics, and Hannah Huzzey in Literary Criticism.

Students who placed second and third in individual events also will advance to the regional meet.

The Tiger Speech and Debate team won the UIL District Speech Championship March 28 and four students qualified for regional competition.

DSHS swept the standings in CX Debate, with Christian Pundt and Mason Mohon winning, Christopher Gearing and Varun Verna placing second, and Riley Wheaton and Campbell Melton finishing third. Dripping Springs nearly swept the Persuasive Speaking competition, with Max Bibeau winning the event, Campbell Melton in second, and Catherine Manning in fourth.

Other top finishes were turned in by Griffen Smith, who was second in Informative Speaking; John Mihaly, who was third in LD Debate; Lily Sethre-Brink, who was fourth in

Informative Speaking and fifth in LD Debate; Sofia Albini, who was sixth in Prose; and Gwyn Pietrzyk, who was sixth in Poetry.

Qualifying for regionals in speech and debate were Max Bibeau, Campbell Melton, Griffen Smith, and John Mihaly. Catherine Manning and Lily Sethre-Brink are alternates.

The regional competition is April 14, 2018, at the University of Texas San Antonio.