Dear School Administrator,

As an alum of [insert name of high school/middle school], I recognize there are many opportunities and courses that are offered to students which help prepare them for their futures after high school. However, none come to mind that are as influential on a student’s success as a strong speech and debate program. Multiple studies and testimonials have shown speech and debate activities keep students more engaged and increase their overall performance in the classroom.

Having experienced the impact of speech and debate first-hand, [insert how participating in speech and debate influenced your schooling, friendships, skills, career, etc.].

By its nature, speech and debate promotes curiosity and advocacy through the power of words to question assumptions, examine issues, and introduce solutions.

**This is why it is vitally important for campus administrators, like yourself, to continue to support speech and debate in our schools.** Studies have shown that students who participate in competitive speech and debate activities are more likely to have higher academic achievement and an overall better educational experience. Through the process of developing an argument, crafting a speech, or interpreting a piece of literature, students become better thinkers, writers, and communicators.

Speech and debate also creates a unique sense of team and community that allows students to “bridge the gap” with those who may come from different backgrounds or have different experiences. I see speech and debate as being a “great equalizer” as it provides students of all backgrounds with the opportunity to use their voice and stand up for what they believe.

Speech and debate instills the confidence necessary for young people to thrive in life and become advocates of what is fair, what is right, and what is just in their communities.

Yours Truly,

[First & Last Name]