



Santa Maria Joint Union
HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
NEWS * NEWS * NEWS
PRESS RELEASE

Wednesday,
March 18,
2026

Twenty students from the SMJUHSD proudly participated in the Migrant Speech and Debate Tournament at California Polytechnic State University on Friday, March 13th.

The students represented their schools with pride after spending many weeks preparing for the competition. Through consistent practice and dedication, they worked hard to strengthen their public speaking, organization, and critical thinking skills. Their effort and commitment were clearly reflected in their performances during the tournament.

In preparation for the event, students attended regular practice sessions where they developed their speeches, practiced delivery, and learned how to confidently present their ideas in front of judges and peers. These practices helped students build confidence while also encouraging teamwork and collaboration among participants from different schools within the district.

The students were guided and supported by their dedicated coaches, Mr. Ruvalcaba from Pioneer Valley High School, Mrs. Carrillo from Santa Maria High School, and Mrs. Lopez from Righetti High School. The coaches spent many hours mentoring students, helping them refine their presentations and encouraging them to do their best.

“The coaches are extremely proud of the students’ hard work, growth, and determination. Participating in this event allowed students to strengthen important academic and leadership skills while representing their schools and the Migrant Education Program with pride.” – PV Migrant School Advisor, Mr. Ruvalcaba.

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