

PHSSL's Stance on Technology

Being able to connect and organize current data is an important skill in today's digital environment. We believe that having the opportunity to use digital resources and synthesize information taken from them to make the best speeches and arguments possible will provide practice in a valuable skill that cannot be matched in any other academic situation.

The use of electronic retrieval devices is permitted in all PHSSL events. This ruling is not meant to imply that any student must use electronic devices, merely that it is now permitted.

- This includes the retrieval—in preparation rooms and during rounds—of stored data and, if possible, the online retrieval of current information.
- This includes using digital resources to flow debates and to prepare speeches.
- This includes using digital resources to time debates and speeches.

No guarantee of power or of Internet connectivity should be presumed. There should be no expectation placed on host schools to provide either of these resources. Students wishing to use digital devices must be responsible for providing these resources and for having an alternative plan if the digital device fails.

Digital communication between speakers and persons outside of the competition event or room is not permitted. PHSSL's intent is similar to its rules under Policy/Cross-Exam Debate and under the Preparation Room Procedures for Extemporaneous Speaking and Commentary: consulting with a coach or anyone outside the competition room once the competition has begun will result in disqualification from the competition.