

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Speaking and listening are skills in Language Arts that are used the most in the real world. Every person is required to communicate in/with the public at some point in his/her life. T.U.S.C. (Totally Unbelievable Speaking Club) provides your child with an opportunity to learn how to speak confidently. Learning specific speaking skills, observing other speakers, planning, researching, and practicing how to speak in a public setting are integral pieces of the learning process. This program has had a huge impact in developing confidence and self-esteem in students by having them complete short presentations on topics they are familiar with, in a safe learning environment. Although these presentations are in English only, Mme. MacLaren & Mme. Benson have also noticed some big improvements in French as well!



***We will have our T.U.S.C. meetings every week, and with big classes it will take a large part of our class time on that day (Wiggins – Wednesday 10:35am – 12:15pm MacLaren Wednesday 1:05 – 2:25).***

Some tasks are very short and others require a little more work, I have tried to spread the workload out so that students will have smaller tasks in between the larger ones. ***Presentations for short tasks may be under one minute long and longer tasks should not exceed 3 minutes.*** Keep in mind that there will be several presenters so a presentation between 1-2 minutes would be ideal. The preparation for TUSC is to be completed outside of the regular school day (aka – homework). If your child does not have access to a computer for the tasks that require research or a powerpoint (most use Google Slides), please let me know so I can give them time to use a computer at school.

As the program progresses throughout the year, please talk to your child about is/her roles. Detailed role descriptions are located on my website under the TUSC tab. Your child will be assigned the T.U.S.C. Roles in the order they appear. For example if their first role is the Comedian, then the following week they will be the TV/Movie Critic and continue on to DIY or Life Hacks the week after.

It is very important that your child be well prepared for each T.U.S.C. meeting. Students will be evaluated on both content and presentation. Please see the attached rubric for more assessment information. TUSC role descriptions, weekly role assignments, and the marking rubric can be found on my class website under the TUSC tab (<http://wigginscentre.weebly.com/tusc.html>) and they have also been sent to your child via Google Classroom.

Areas of focus will include: a strong introduction and conclusion, creativity, oral fluency, expression, volume, eye contact, content knowledge, and detailed preparation.

Thank you in advance for your support! If you have any questions please contact me by email ([karen.wiggins@ocdsb.ca](mailto:karen.wiggins@ocdsb.ca)) or phone (613 836-1312).

Regards,

*Karen Wiggins*