

Power of the Pen: 2018–2019



“Power of the Pen” Meetings: All Power of the Pen meetings will take place from 2:03-3:15 in room S. 219 of RBC.

- **Introductory Meeting:** Monday, November 12th
- **1st Round of Tryouts:** Monday, November 19th
 - We’ll have a writing tournament to see who the top 6 writers (and 2 alternates) are for each grade and then post their names before the next Power of the Pen meeting.
- **1st Power of the Pen Team Meeting:** Monday, November 26th
- **2nd Power of the Pen team meeting:** Monday, December 3rd
 - Power of the Pen team members will need to pay their \$65 fee.
- **Schedule:** Power of the Pen Team Meetings will continue every Monday (except where noted below) for the same duration of time and in the same location until the season is over.
 - Dec. 10th, Dec. 17th, Tuesday Jan. 8th
 - District: Saturday, January 12 at St. Vincent-St. Mary High School in Akron.
 - Jan. 14th, Tuesday Jan. 22, Jan. 28th, Feb. 4th, Feb. 11th, Tuesday Feb. 19th
 - Regional: Saturday, February 23 at Kent State University in Kent.
 - We will decide how to further our schedule after the regional tournament if team members move on to the state-level competition in Wooster.
 - State: Thursday, May 23rd & Friday, May 24th at The College of Wooster

Tournament Dates for 2018-2019 Season:

WHAT: Power of the Pen is an excellent experience for students to awaken and strengthen their creative voice as well as prepare them for state mandated testing. There will be more than 500 schools from over 80 counties participating in one or more tournaments. Power of the Pen helps students to gain a confident writing voice via creative expression using the elements of good writing verses expository writing focusing on mechanics. Since creativity cannot be “taught,” it is our hope to inspire and nurture creativity which enables students to take pride in their work, improve mechanics, and develop a love for language.

WHEN: Power of the Pen Teams will meet after school 2:05 - 3:15 on the days listed above; we will practice and discuss writing prompts, generate ideas, and share written work. *It is important that ALL Power of the Pen members attend the practice sessions since alternates may be moved up to be into a competing slot on the team.

HOW: The TEAM will consist of six writers and two alternates per grade level (7th & 8th only). They will compete at a district level tournament, individuals who qualify will compete at the regional level, and those who qualify will compete at the state level. Tournament dates are attached please check your calendars ASAP.

PAY TO PARTICIPATE: The Twinsburg Pay to Participate cost for Power of the Pen is \$65.00. This fee is required of all qualified team writers and will need to be paid to the school no later than January 10th.

Tournament Dates for 2018-2019 Season:

DISTRICT: Saturday, Jan. 12th 8:30 -3 pm @ St. Vincent-St. Mary High School

- The WHOLE TEAM will participate at District. Therefore you need to be available to compete at the first tournament in order to be considered for the team. Alternates are also expected to attend this tournament as well!

REGIONAL: Saturday, Feb. 23rd 8:30 -3 pm @ Kent State University

- Those who qualify will then advance to the Regional, and finally, those who qualify there will then advance to State. Team members who don't qualify for this level may sign up to be "runners" at the Regional tournament. Volunteering for Power of the Pen is lots of fun!!!

STATE: Thursday, May 23rd & Friday, May 24th @ The College of Wooster

- Individual team members who qualify will spend the day at the College of Wooster on Friday, May 26th to compete against all State qualifiers in their grade
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Power of the Pen 2018-2019 Commitment Agreement:

*Please READ, SIGN, and RETURN this Student Commitment Agreement form after our first meeting.

As a member of Power of the Pen, you are expected to:

- Attend all practice session that are held for team members.
- Show a willingness to accept constructive criticism and a willingness to improve your writing in all pre-tournament meetings that are held.
- Edit your written work as required by your Writing Team Coach.
- Practice outside of school several times a week on suggested practice prompts.
- Positively support all fellow team members prior, during, and post tournaments regardless of individual achievement

When competing on behalf of our school at tournaments, you will be expected to:

- Conduct yourself at all times in interscholastic competition as an official team representative for our school, and in a manner that will be a credit of our school, your coach, your fellow team members, and yourself. Be present at all tournaments that you are qualified to attend, except in the case of an unexpected illness or other emergency.

Fill out & then return the signed portion of this form:

“I understand what is expected of me, and I will do my best to fulfill my responsibilities as a Power of the Pen Team Member.”

X _____
Student Name Printed

X _____ Date _____ Grade _____
Student Signature

X _____
Parent/Guardian Name Printed

X _____ Date _____
Parent/Guardian Signature

Parent Email: _____

Parent Contact Number: _____
