



Department Membership Bulletin



October 12, 2026

North Dakota State Headquarters

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"ALWAYS WILLING , NEVER UNABLE"

26-27 Bulletin No. 3

DEPARTMENT HITS MEMBERSHIP GOAL AT 66.53%

The Third Target Date goal was 55% and congratulations to all 10 Districts for exceeding this percentage. The 3rd District came out on top with 75.72% and the 4th came in second with 73.85%.

The Central Region came in on top with 72.23% of goal followed by the Eastern Region with 67.81% and Third is the Western Region with 67.37%. The Department is at 66.53% of our 2026 goal.

ND American Legion **High School Oratorical Contest** **Scholarship Program**

The ND High School Oratorical Contest district schedule is included in this bulletin with contests starting on November 21st and ending on December 12th.

The West Division Contest will be on January 16, 2027, in Dickinson and the East on December 19, 2026, in Park River.

The State Oratorical Contest Finals will be in Minot at the Minot Grand Hotel on January 30, 2027.

The Oratorical Contest information is posted on the ND American Legion website at ndlegion.org. If you have any questions, please contact the Department Headquarters at 701-293-3120.

District Standings

Third	75.72%
Fourth	73.85%
Seventh	73.67%
Second	71.60%
Tenth	69.46%
Sixth	69.12%
Eighth	68.94%
Fifth	68.92%
First	63.11%
Ninth	59.38%

Next Target Date
November 12th

SCHEDULE OF 2026-2027 DISTRICT ORATORICAL CONTESTS

NORTH DAKOTA AMERICAN LEGION

Listed below is the schedule of the District Oratorical Contests for your information. Posts that will have a contestant to compete in the District Contest are urged to alert the student and the school of the scheduled contest in your District and to see to it that arrangements are made for any transportation that may be necessary for that student to appear at the contest.

<u>DISTRICT CONTESTS</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>CITY</u>
1 st	To Be Determinated			
2 nd	Dec 2 (Wed)	1:00 pm	444 Sheyenne St. Legion Hall	Park River
3 rd	Dec 5 (Sat)	9:00 am	102 5th St. E. Leeds Public School	Leeds
4 th	To Be Determinated		530 1 st St SE	
5 th	Dec 12 (Sat)	1:30 pm	AMVETS	Bismarck
6 th	Dec 12 (Sat)	1:00 pm	2402 Railroad Ave. Oak Valley Lutheran	Velva
7 th	Dec12 (Sat)	10 am	400 Main St N New Salem City Auditorium	New Salem
8 th	Dec 12 (Sat)	8-11 am MST	104 N. Main Dickinson State Univ	Dickinson
9 th	Dec 9 (Wed)	11:00 am	Klinefelter Hall (Stickney Aud) 1003 5 th St. W.	
10 th	Nov 21 (Sat)	10:00 am	Ray Elementary School	Ray
			215 West St.	
			Fairmount High School	Fairmount
			101 Date Ave.	
<u>DIVISION CONTESTS</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>CITY</u>
East	Dec 19 (Sat)	10:00 am	Legion Hall	Park River
			102 5 th St. E.	
	(Winners of Districts 1-2-3-4-10 will compete in the East Division Contest)			
West	Jan 16 (Sat)	9:00 am MST	Dickinson State Univ	Dickinson
			Murphy Hall Stroup Aud	
			1003 5 th St. W.	
	(Winners of Districts 5-6-7-8-9 will compete in the West Division Contest)			
<u>STATE FINALS</u>	Jan 30 (Sat)	1:00 pm	Grand Hotel 1505 North Broadway	Minot

Winners and Runners-up in East and West Division Contest appear at the Winter Conference for the 2027 State Championship.

A W A R D S

District Contest - All District Oratorical Contest Champions will receive a District Oratorical Contest Champion Medal. In addition, through the Chuck Schroeder Memorial Oratorical Fund, the top three finishers of each District Contests will also receive cash awards as follows:

District Champion - \$300 Cash Award
2nd Place - \$200 Cash Award
3rd Place - \$100 Cash Award

Division Contest

West Division Champion - \$300 Cash Award and Desk Pen Set

West Division Runner-up - \$200 Cash Award and Desk Pen Set

East Division Champion - \$300 Cash Award and Desk Pen Set

East Division Runner-up - \$200 Cash Award and Desk Pen Set

State Finals Contest

State Champion - \$ 250 Cash Award from ND American Legion Foundation,
\$ 175 Cash Award from Sam Tolchinsky Endowment Fund

2nd Place - \$200 Cash Award from the North Dakota American Legion Foundation
\$125 Cash Award from the Sam Tolchinsky Endowment Fund

3rd Place - \$150 Cash Award from the North Dakota American Legion Foundation
\$ 50 Cash Award from the family of the late John K. Kennelly

4th Place - \$100 Cash Award from North Dakota American Legion Foundation

Plaque awards are also presented to the four finalists in the State Contest. In addition, our State Champion will receive the C. W. Leifur Traveling Trophy for display at the winner's school.

National All State Champions will compete at the National Oratorical Contest under a 3-round format. This year's National Contest will be held in Hillsdale, Michigan, at the Hillsdale College Campus on May 15-17, 2026. All contestants and chaperones will arrive on Friday, May 15, 2026. The first and second rounds of competition will be held on Saturday, May 16 beginning with 9 separate contests. The winners of these 9 first-round quarter-final contests, advance to three second-round semi-final contests followed by the national final involving three finalists. All contestants participating in the first round will receive a \$2,000 scholarship. Each first-round winner who advances to and participates in the second round, but does not advance to the final round, will receive an additional \$2,000 scholarship. Those contestants eliminated in the first and second rounds will remain and become members of the audience. The three (3) second round winners will participate in the Finals on Sunday, May 17 and have an opportunity to earn scholarships of: 1st Place - \$25,000; 2nd Place - \$22,500; 3rd Place - \$20,000. A banquet honoring all contestants will be held Sunday afternoon. All contestants and chaperones will then depart late Sunday afternoon May 17.

Michael Weyrauch, Chairman, Department Oratorical Contest Committee
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