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**THE LINDALE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
***EDUCATING EVERY CHILD EVERY DAY***

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*For Immediate Release*

**LHS SPEECH AND DEBATE TEAM BRINGS HOME 5A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP  
IN UIL CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE**

In its first year as a sanctioned UIL event, the LHS Speech and Debate Team brought home the 5A State Championship in Congressional Debate. This will mark the fourth year for UIL Congressional Debate; however the past three years have been piloted. Now the competitive event has been accepted as a full UIL Academic meet.

All three LHS speech and debate students that competed at the UIL meet made the State Finals. Yet an individual high school can only enter a maximum of three entries at the district level. For all three LHS students to qualify for the State Finals is a great honor for Lindale ISD.

LHS students Evan Bewersdorf, Anthony Wyatt, and Ronak Desai placed 1st, 3rd, and 9th in the final round. Their accomplishments at the UIL meet overall earns Lindale ISD 25 points toward the State Speech Team Championship, which is set to be awarded in late May.

“Lindale is now in the running for the award and serves as motivation for the rest of the team,” said LHS Debate Coach JP Fugler. “We’re hopeful that our results in Congress are just the beginning of another award-winning and record-breaking year.”

“Evan has been working so hard the past three years and it was a true joy to watch him break through the ceiling,” said LHS Debate Coach and UIL Coordinator Rory McKenzie. “Evan

was a finalist last year but missed out on the medals. His gold medal this year shines extra bright because I know how badly he wanted it. Furthermore this puts us in a good position to challenge for not just a State Speech Team title, and defend on the last two years. It also gives us a great shot at being a player for the UIL Academics State Championship. These students should be commended for all of their hard work."

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