OFFICE OF MARY C. BARLOW

For KCSOS use only

Date Rec'd\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Essay #\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Score \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

KERN COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Division of Instructional Services

*Advocates for Children*

**BANK OF AMERICA ESSAY AND SPEECH CONTEST**

**NOMINATION FORM – 2019-2020**

ATTACH THIS FORM TO THE ESSAY. Essays must be submitted to Teresa Twisselman, at the Kern County Superintendent of Schools Office, 1300 17th Street, Bakersfield, 5th Floor, before 5:00 p.m., on **Wednesday, April 1, 2020.**

STUDENT'S NAME GRADE

SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHOOL ADDRESS CITY & ZIP

PRINCIPAL’ NAME PRINCIPAL’S EMAIL

COACH’S NAME COACH’S EMAIL

SCHOOL FAX NUMBER SCHOOL PHONE

A. The guidelines for the essay nomination process are as follows:

1. Students write informational/explanatory essays using the topic/time/reference guidelines listed under section B (below) and the information in section A on reverse side.
2. Each participating school selects and submits (nominates) one essay at each grade level (4th, 5th, & 6th).
3. This nomination form must be completed and stapled as the cover for each essay submitted.

**PLEASE NO NAMES ON ESSAY PAGES - CONTESTANT’S NAME SHOULD BE ON THIS COVER PAGE ONLY.**

1. **Essays may be may be typed by the student or hand written in black or blue ink on binder paper.**
2. The **essays must be submitted to Teresa Twisselman, at the Kern County Superintendent of Schools Office, before 5:00 p.m., on Wednesday, April 1, 2020. Mail to: 1300 17th Street, Bakersfield, CA 93301 or hand deliver to Teresa on the 5th Floor.**
3. Essays will be judged and ranked by an evaluation panel; writers of the top essays (approximately 8–12 at each grade level) will be invited to present their essays as speeches in the event final on **May 7, 2020**.
4. The criteria for judging the essays are as follows: (100 points total)

Organization (Writing Standards 2, 4): 20 points

Content (Writing Standards 2, 5): 40 points

Voice (Writing Standard 4): 10 points

References, minimum 3 (Writing Standards 7, 8): 20 points

Mechanics (Language Standards 1, 2, and 3): 10 points

1. **RETAIN A COPY OF YOUR ESSAY AND A COPY OF THIS FORM**; submitted essays will not be returned.

B. The guidelines for the speech contest are as follows:

1. **Topic: “How Can California’s Children Develop Healthy Habits?”**

2. **Focus/Purpose:** To inform or explain. A speech to inform imparts information on a specific subject. It is expected that the information presented in these speeches is found through research on the topic.

3. This speech should **not** be a dramatic, theatrical performance, and should **not** include singing or choreography. Points will be deducted for a violation of this guideline.

4. **Time:** 3 minutes MINIMUM . . . 5 minutes MAXIMUM

5. Memorization is encouraged, however, note cards may be used.

6. No props or costumes may be used.

7. Student is not to state his/her name or school in the presentation.

8. The criteria for judging the speech contest are as follows: (100 points total)

**Organization:** 20 points **Poise:** 15 points

**Content:** 30 points **Delivery:** 20 points

**References:** (minimum 3) 15 points **Potential Deductions:** (rules 3-7) 5 points each

**I HAVE READ THE ATTACHED ESSAY; IT CONFORMS TO THE GUIDELINES LISTED ON BOTH SIDES OF THIS FORM.**

Student’s Signature:

Parent’s Signature:

Teacher/Coach’s Signature:

Principal’s Signature:

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**BANK OF AMERICA ESSAY AND SPEECH CONTEST – 2019-2020**

The Bank of America Essay/Speech Contest is for 4th, 5th and 6th grade students.  **Each participating school may nominate one essay at each grade (4th, 5th, 6th).** There are no regional level contests.

**A. INSTRUCTIONS for Students – Topic: “How Can California’s Children Develop Healthy Habits?”**

Write a research-based, informational essay/speech that addresses this topic, based on your research and your own experience. Keep in mind all aspects of good health (e.g. nutrition, exercise, sleep). An informational essay/speech is written to inform the audience about the writer’s understanding of the topic based on personal knowledge and research completed. The structure of the informational essay is first to frame the central issue, then include facts and details for focus using information from your own experience and a variety of sources. Be sure to cite, in the context of the essay/speech (see examples below), at least three different sources you used in your research. Sources may include personal interviews, articles, websites, reference and other books. Please be careful when choosing internet resources. **Essays may be typed or hand written in black or blue ink on binder paper.**

Essays/speeches do not require formal footnotes and/or bibliographies, but students must cite at least three different sources in the body of the essay/speech. This should be done in narrative form, e.g., “The Encyclopedia Britannica, 2009 edition, lists…” “On October 4, 2006, an NBC newscaster noted…” or “John Jones, in his article ‘Global Warming’ stated…”

**B. TO THE TEACHER:** The essay/speech contest is an opportunity for students to practice and perfect their language arts skills in the areas of research, expository writing, and public speaking. Essays and speeches should demonstrate proficiency of the CA Common Core State Standards for writing and presenting informational/explanatory reports. Writing Standard 2, for each grade level, addresses writing informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly. Writing standards 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 also support the development of an informative/explanatory essay/speech. Speaking and Listening Standards 4 and 6 are addressed by the presentation of this knowledge. If essays/speeches are presented in classrooms, Speaking and Listening standards 2 and 3 may be addressed as audience members evaluate and summarize information presented. For information regarding these standards refer to the Common Core State Standards for English/Language Arts, History/Social Studies and Science and Technical Subjects found at [www.cde.ca.gov/re/cc/](http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/cc/) .

**Please be sure the student reads and follows the guidelines for this essay/speech contest (in A and B above and on the other side of this form).**

**C.** The schedule for the Bank of America Speech Contest and Awards Presentation is as follows: Competition for grades 4, 5, and 6 will be held at **6:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 7, 2020 at the Kern County Superintendent of Schools Office,**

**Larry E. Reider Education Center, 2000 K Street, Bakersfield, CA.** Students will check-in between 6:00 p.m. and 6:15 p.m. in their competition rooms. A reception and award presentation for all finalists and guests will be held following the competition in Room 101.

**D.** Bank of America will award a $50 Russo’s Books gift card for the first place winner, a $30 Russo’s Books gift card for the second place winner, and a $20 Russo’s Books gift card for the third place winner at each grade level. Each student who is invited to and participates in the speech contest will receive a trophy at the awards presentation.

***Note to Parents and Educators:*** *The news media may elect to cover all or part of this event, which can include photos, video or text that identifies and may quote the child/student. This news coverage may appear in newspapers, newsletters, on television, radio or other publicly circulated communications. State law permits media access to student competitions and often helps highlight the many wonderful students we have in our county.*

For additional information, contact Teresa Twisselman, English-Language Arts Coordinator, at (661) 636-4645 or Christine Goedhart-Humphrey, Student Events Coordinator, at (661) 636-4330.

**See reverse side for additional information.**