



March 13, 2017

To: Dr. Riggle, Superintendent
Board of Education

Fr: Karen Geddeis

Re: Glenbrook Stories - March 19, 2017

MEMO

For our Glenbrook Stories segment on March 19, we will get to know Ms. Tara Tate, longtime GBS social studies teacher and debate coach. Even though she has received many honors this year for doing what she “grew up” doing, Ms. Tate’s story is about the journey, not the destination.

“Teaching is in my genes,” Tate said. “... To be recognized by two different national organizations for what I have done with students over my career is very rewarding.”

Tate has been involved in the National Speech and Debate Association (NSDA) since she was 14 years old, as a competitor in high school. This year, she was the NSDA’s Illinois State Educator of the Year and was a Top 5 finalist for the National Educator of the Year award.

“I have essentially grown up with this organization, and I know that it is filled with thousands of outstanding educators from across the nation,” Tate said.

In addition, Tate was named the National Federation of High Schools National Citation Winner for Speech/Debate/Theatre Educators this year. She teaches Argumentation and Debate courses, along with Civics and AP Government, and says she is very excited to roll out a new Civics course next year which will be a graduation requirement for the Class of 2020 and beyond.