

The Debate Club Hosts Their First Debate (Part 1)

(Story words: first, Elementary, school, food)

Ms. Lopez ran a debate club open to all students in the fifth grade at Clifton Elementary. They met at lunch time. Today, Ms. Lopez was thrilled to tell the students that a school in the district had just created a debate club too and wanted to debate with them!

The topic of the debate had been chosen. It was, “Should snacks and junk food be sold in schools?” Kids began discussing the subject. Some students expressed their hope that they would get the “pro” side.

Ms. Lopez told them that she would not find out if they were on the “pro” or “con” side until just days before the debate. Thus, the best thing to do was to prepare by finding all the facts about this subject.

Ms. Lopez said, “Do not fret. If we are on the ‘pro’ side, we will find lots of facts that will help us to defend the idea of

schools selling snacks. And, if we end up on the 'con' side, we will find lots of facts to make the case that schools should be prohibited from selling snacks. Debate topics are chosen because you can make a good case for the 'pro' or 'con' side.”

Ms. Lopez finished, “We will host the first debate at our school, and then we will be invited to go to their school for a second debate.”

The students had wide eyes. This felt like a big event.