

FOUNDATION FOR
WESTWOOD
EDUCATION

OFFICIAL SPELLING BEE RULES

- Each team **MUST** consist of at least three (3) and no more than four (4) members from the same grade. (Students can be from different schools).
- Words used in the Spelling Bee rounds will be selected from www.myspellit.com. All teams from every grade are expected to study all of the words on the website.
- At the Moderator's discretion, he or she may select a word that is **NOT** on the myspellit.com word list.
- Copies of wordlists and/or papers of any kind, other than blank paper provided, are not allowed on the stage during the competition.
- The moderator will pronounce the word, use it in a sentence, and pronounce the word again. The word will be repeated one additional time if requested. **A team must raise their hand to request a word to be repeated.** The moderator will only repeat the word once.
- Team members may collaborate on the spelling of the word. Each team will PRINT the word legibly on the whiteboard that is provided to each team. One student should be designated the whiteboard "printer." All teams will complete the writing of the word within twenty (20) seconds and **ALL** team members will be instructed by the judge to "put their pencils and hands down and their white boards up" at that time.
- Team whiteboards cannot be modified/alterd after the twenty (20) seconds either by adding or removing a letter(s). Teams that modify/alter their whiteboard after the twenty (20) seconds will be eliminated from that round. In fairness to all, we need to be firm on this rule.
- Upon misspelling a word, the team will be eliminated. **If all remaining teams misspell the word, then ALL teams will be eliminated and that will conclude the round.** The only exception is in the **final round** for the grade. If all teams misspell a word in the **final round**, additional words will be given until a final team is declared champion for that grade.
- All teams in a round remain on stage until the round is completed.
- Members from the audience are not allowed on stage at any time. They must remain seated and quiet. Please do not go in and out of the auditorium, it is not fair to the students on stage.
- **The judges' decisions are final.** Our Judges do their best to be impartial and keep the play consistent, fair and fun for all the teams.
- All participants will receive a certificate of participation. Members of the winning team from each grade level will receive a prize.