

Thank you so much for registering your kid(s) to participate in Grand Ridge Elementary's first ever Spelling Bee. We are excited and want the events to run as smoothly as possible. To make this event a success, please review the following rules with your child so they understand how it will work.

And we are still looking for a few volunteers to make our Bees a success. If you can volunteer one evening even for a little bit, it would be a great help! You can sign up through our volunteer link here: <http://signup.com/go/fFLBgyB>

Thank you and see you next week,  
Minal Desai-Monga  
Grand Ridge PTSA Spelling Bee Chair

### **General Information & Check-in:**

- This year's bee was an open invitation to all students in grades 1-5.
- All participants are encouraged to practice their spelling words at home.
- On the day of the "Bee" all spellers will randomly be assigned a number and will sit in numerical order.
- The rules of the "Bee" will be explained to the participants and the audience prior to starting.
- **All students must check in 15 mins prior to the start of their bee.** The check-in is at the lower-level entrance by the Multipurpose Room. **Please be on time.** **We will not be able to add any more participants once everyone is assigned a number and on stage.**
  - Monday, Feb 11:
    - ❖ 1<sup>st</sup> Graders – Check-in time 5:45 pm
    - ❖ 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders – Check-in time 7:00 pm
  - Tuesday, Feb 12:
    - ❖ 2<sup>nd</sup> Graders – Check-in time 5:45 pm
    - ❖ 4<sup>th</sup> Graders – Check-in time 7:00 pm
  - Wednesday, Feb 13:
    - ❖ 5<sup>th</sup> Graders – Check-in time 5:45 pm
- The audience is required to maintain silence during the Bee. If you have a little one, please sit toward the back so as not to disturb the participants.
- Parents – 1<sup>st</sup> Graders are allowed to have their parents on stage to **only support** them.

### **For the spellers:**

- We will start with a practice round so everyone is clear on how a round will work.
- In a spelling round, the pronouncer gives the word to the speller. The speller repeats the word **BEFORE** spelling it so that the judges can confirm that the speller has heard the correct word. The speller may ask the pronouncer for the following **prior** to starting spelling:
  - **Define the word**

- **Use it in a sentence**
  - **Provide the part of speech and/or the language(s) of origin**
  - **Provide an alternate pronunciation or pronunciations**
  - **Repeat the word**
  - **Repeat the sentence**
- Spellers will have a **time limit of 60 seconds in which to complete the spelling of the word** from the time they indicate to the pronouncer that they understand the word they are to spell.
  - The speller should face the judges and make an effort to state each letter distinctly and with sufficient volume to be understood by the judges.
  - Speller spells the word. **Once the speller has started spelling the word they may start over as long as they have not finished spelling the word and repeated it.** Once they repeat the word at the end of their spelling, they are indicating that they are finished.
  - **If only one speller in a round spells correctly or answers a vocabulary question correctly:** If only one speller spells correctly in a round, a new one-word spelling round begins and the next speller is given an opportunity to spell a word on the list. If up to 3 spellers get the word wrong and the 4<sup>th</sup> speller spells it right – all 3 spellers before him are eliminated and joins the audience.
  - **If all spellers in a round misspell or answer vocabulary questions incorrectly:** If none of the spellers remaining in the spelling bee at the start of a round spells a word correctly or answers a vocabulary question correctly during that round, all remain in the competition and a new spelling round begins.
  - A round is complete when all spellers have had the chance to spell one word. The next round begins with the remaining spellers.
  - If there is a round where all spellers in the round misspell their words, then the spellers in that round remain in the competition and another round begins.
  - **Ties:** All spellers eliminated in the same round are tied for the same place. After the champion has been determined, spelling bee officials may opt to conduct tiebreakers (of their own design) if tiebreakers are necessary for the awarding of prizes.
  - **If only one speller in the final round spells correctly:** If only one speller spells correctly in a round, a new one-word spelling round begins and the speller is given an opportunity to spell a word on the list (anticipated championship word). If the speller succeeds in correctly spelling the anticipated championship word in this one-word round, the speller is declared the champion.
    - **VERY IMPORTANT:** If a speller misspells the anticipated championship word **in a one-word round:** A new spelling round begins with ALL the spellers who participated in the previous round. These spellers spell in their original order.
    - The winner of the “Bee” is determined when only one speller in a round correctly spells his / her word.