

East Ridge Elementary PTA Spelling Bee Rules

All student spellers, parents and Spelling Bee officials should make themselves familiar with these rules prior to the start of the Spelling Bee.

1. Participants must be in 1st through 6th grade and East Ridge Elementary must be their home school.
2. **Participants must have registered to participate in the appropriate Spelling Bee no later than January 10, 2012 (1st & 2nd), January 16, 2012 (3rd & 4th), January 23, 2012 (5th & 6th).**
3. Participants must arrive in the hallway **outside the library** by 3:15pm on the day of their bee.
4. The audience will seat themselves in the library no earlier than 3:15pm. The bee will begin promptly at 3:30pm.
5. Audience members should take care to be quiet and show respect to all the spellers.
6. Audience members should hold any applause until it is called for at the end of each round.
7. All participants will be seated in an order predetermined by a random drawing of names. Each speller will be given a number to wear around his/her neck during the Bee.
8. Participants will spell in the order they are seated. The first round will include all spellers. Each subsequent round will include only those spellers who spelled their word correctly in the previous round.
9. The pronouncer will give each speller a word. The speller may ask the pronouncer to say the word again and/or use it in a sentence.
10. The speller should pronounce the word before and/or after spelling it, but will not be eliminated if they choose not to do so.
11. The Bee will be conducted in rounds. Each speller remaining in the Bee at the start of a round shall spell one word in that round.
12. Upon missing the spelling of one word, the speller is out of the competition. The next word on the pronouncer's list is given to the next speller.
13. In the event that none of the spellers spells a word correctly during the round, all spellers in that round shall remain in the competition.
14. At the end of each round, the spellers who missed the spelling of a word join the audience.
15. All spellers eliminated in the same round are tied for the same place.
16. If only one of the spellers remaining in the Bee at the start of a round spells a word correctly during the round, the speller who correctly spells a word is declared the winner.
17. The judges' decision shall be final on all questions.
18. Ribbons will be awarded to all participants. A prize will be awarded to the top speller in each of the three Bees. The top 6th grade speller is eligible to advance to the Regional Spelling Bee in Seattle. In the event that there is a tie among the top 6th grader spellers a special series of rounds will be used to determine the 6th grade winner from among the tied spellers who wish to advance to the Regional Bee.