



Participant Information Sheet

1. The Spelling bee is tomorrow, January 9. If we have a delay or snow day, it will be on Thursday, January 11. If you are not sure if we are having the bee, go to <http://smsspellingbee.wikispaces.com> I will post a message on the main page if the bee is postponed.
2. On the day of the bee, there is a breakfast for you and your family. You have already given me the number of people attending. The breakfast is in the cafeteria at 7:30 AM.
3. When you get here for the breakfast, send the people who are with you to the cafeteria. YOU should go to homeroom and check in, then join them in the cafeteria for breakfast. You do not need to bring anything with you.
4. Breakfast will be from 7:30 to approximately 8:00, and then we will go to the auditorium for the bee itself.
5. Your parents ARE allowed to bring cameras, video cameras, etc. They are NOT allowed to use a flash during the bee.
6. You do not need to wear anything fancy, but you should wear something appropriate for photos. Some of the bee photos may end up in the newspaper, so just make sure you are comfortable and appropriate. (Ladies, you will be sitting on stage. Please make sure that if you wear a skirt, it is AT LEAST knee-length.)
7. You will be seated on stage. We will do a "practice round" so that you know where to stand, sit, etc. before the real bee starts.
8. The bee is single-elimination, which means that if you spell a word incorrectly, you are out. When you are "out," you will leave the stage by the stairs near the cafeteria, then sit in the front row of seats there for you.
9. You will hear the word pronounced, and then you will need to say the word back to me, spell the word, and then say the word again. If you start and then stop and then start again, you cannot change any letters. For example, "Example. E-K. . . I mean, E-X" is not allowed. Once you say the letter, it sticks. Take your time and think it through before you spell the word.
10. You can ask me to say the word in a sentence, tell you what language the word is from, ask if there are any alternate pronunciations, and ask me what part of speech the word is before you spell it. You do not HAVE to ask these things, but if you think it will help, you certainly may.
11. The winner must spell the last word correctly. So, if it comes down to two people and one gets "out," the last person must spell another word correctly to win. Otherwise, the second-place person gets another chance, and it keeps going. (Don't worry, I'll explain that again when we get down to two people at the bee.)
12. The bee will take anywhere from an hour to three hours, depending on how well you all spell. If your parents need to leave early, they are allowed to do that.
13. The winner of the Springhouse Spelling Bee will represent our school at the next level of competition, which is a written spelling bee at Northampton Community College. That person will get more information after our bee is over.
14. Please make sure you have read over the rules for the bee BEFORE tomorrow. The rules can be found at spellingbee.com. I will review some of the rules before we start, but will not read every single one.
15. If there is ANYTHING you or your parents have a question about before the bee, please email me at steigerwaltk@parklandsd.org and I will get back to you with the answer.