



January 5, 2021

Dear Spelling Bee Coordinator,

The 11th Annual Eastern Oklahoma State Spelling Bee will take place Friday, April 9th at the Muskogee Civic Center (425 Boston Street). **Registration starts at 4:30 P.M. with the competition beginning at 6:30 P.M. Depending on Covid-19 we may not be able to have a full food court at our state bee event this year. We will have a hospitality area if we do not get to have our usual large hospitality room. It will open at 4:30 P.M. with soft drinks or water plus a few packaged snacks for all our contestants, family members, and special guests to enjoy.**

Prizes will include engraved medals for each contestant, 2020 commemorative t-shirts, and trophies for first, second, and third place winners. We are excited to announce that the champion of the Eastern Oklahoma State Spelling Bee will receive a **\$1,000.00** for his or her school and a **\$500.00** cash prize. Our second place student will receive **\$500.00** for his or her school and a **\$250.00** cash prize. Third place student will receive **\$250.00** for their school and **\$100.00** cash prize. We are thrilled to offer these fantastic prizes for your school and students. **The grand prize for our first place winner will be two tickets to a basketball game for the Oklahoma City Thunder. Games are played at the Chesapeake Energy Arena in OKC. Transportation is not provided to the game. Due to Covid -19 the grand prize may not be available this year. In regards of the tickets to the Thunder we must be cautious and will monitor things as we move closer to our event.**

All student contestants will have the opportunity to win watches, tablets, headphones, gift baskets, and other fantastic prizes during the intermissions. These prizes will be given away by random drawings to students participating in the BEE. Thank you to our generous sponsors for making this occasion possible for our student contestants. We encourage all student contestants to stay in the arena until all the drawings have taken place.

Deadlines and Forms Needed:

- **Champion and Runner-Up Registration Form – Deadline – Saturday, March 6th**
- **Minor Appearance Release Form (2) – Can send in with Champion and Runner-Up Form or bring to event**

Where there is a “two” listed by the bold items above, please give one to each of your student representatives. **Let the student contestants know they must register at the state spelling bee competition with a parent, guardian, or a teacher who understands the spelling bee rules.**

****Take notice of the deadlines regarding champion and runner-up registration form and participation in the art contest. Deadlines are subject to extensions because of possible inclement weather conditions or Covid -19.***

This year we are requesting that you have a third or fourth place student attend in the absence of your champion or runner-up. Please provide these students with the same word list by origins and

countries as your champion and runner-up. They will also need the spelling bee rules that can be located on our website. Some schools had no student representatives present on the stage last year. By providing this opportunity we believe each school should or will have representation at the state spelling bee event. **The third or fourth place students will only participate if one of your winning students is not able to compete in Muskogee on Friday, April 3rd.**

Please let us know if you are not able to open a particular form or other needed information on our website. I will be glad to send you the requested information separately by an email attachment directly to you. Just let me know and I will get that out to you very quickly.

***If you are in need of trophies for your school-wide spelling bee one of our business sponsors has agreed to special pricing for your school. I-40 Awards & Engraving in Muskogee. They are located at 812 East Side Blvd. Martin Updike is the owner and you may contact him at 918-577-1956 or martin@i40awards.com. He will be more than happy to assist you and your school district.**

***Please make note that our phone numbers have changed. AT&T – Oklahoma is our new “Gold Bee” sponsor and they are providing us with new phones and numbers. Those new numbers are listed below in my signature and we would like for you to add them to your files. Feel free to contact us at any time with questions you may have for us.**

Rally your community! Everyone come and support your winners. This will be a wonderful experience for your students, school, and community. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at the email address or phone number listed below.

Thank you for all you do to ensure academic excellence!

See you at the BEE!

Susan

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