

MEAD ELEMENTARY PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

Re: Scripps Spelling Bee

Dec 4, 2025

Dear Parents,

Congratulations! You are receiving this notification because your 4th or 5th-grade student has registered to participate in the Mead Elementary Spelling Bee (part of the official Scripps National Spelling Bee)!

1. Spelling Bee Phase 1 – This will be a grade-level Spelling Bee held on January 27th (4th grade) and 29th (5th grade), 2026 during lunch and recess. Unfortunately, parents will not be allowed to observe due to space restrictions. Finalists will advance to Phase 2.

2. Spelling Bee Phase 2 – The finalists will participate in the school-wide Spelling Bee held during the assembly on February 4th, 2026.

3. One finalist from the Phase 2 Spelling Bee will advance to the regional Spelling Bee in Denver, CO. The Denver Post Colorado State Spelling Bee will be held on [date] in March 2026, at the University of Denver. The winner of the State event advances to the Scripps National Spelling Bee scheduled for [date] in May 2026.

Tips to help your child prepare for the Spelling Bee:

We will meet with students on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from December 9th to January 22nd, during their lunch time to review the rules, answer questions, and practice a little. This time will NOT be enough for them to learn how to spell the words. They must practice at home to learn the correct spelling.

Spend time every day with your child and review the spelling of the words. Spelling is a skill, and just like sports or math, you don't get better without practice! Start with the words from their grade level and move on to words from other grade levels when they feel ready. Have your child practice the spelling words over and over until they are able to spell them without looking at the list. Use a dictionary to study word roots, origins, languages, etc. IMPORTANT: The format you will practice is:

1. Say the word
2. Spell the word
3. Say the word

This is to help students be sure of the word they are spelling, to give them a second chance to go slower, and to notify the judge when they have finished spelling the word. Once they begin spelling, they cannot start over.

Make sure your child feels comfortable on the stage. Some people have stage fright. If your child wants to succeed in the Spelling Bee, they must have the courage to go up and spell a word.

Word lists are available for students to download to their iPads using a QR code:



In addition, there is an app called Word Club by Scripps Spelling Bee available on iPads. Students can choose from five spelling game modes and track their progress as they master the School Spelling Bee study list. This is the recommended study resource for the classroom, school, state qualifier, and state spelling bee competitions. The app will pronounce the words and provide definitions. The competition will focus solely on spelling (students will not have to learn the definitions, although the state spelling bee competition will include a definitions test that will be used as a tiebreaker).

If you have any questions, please email Mary at marycat716@gmail.com or text 303-478-7248

Mary Amelotte and Jessica Cullum

Mead Elementary PAC, Spelling Bee Coordinators