

ARQUIDIÓCESIS DE SAN JUAN DE PUERTO RICO
SUPERINTENDENCIA DE ESCUELAS CATÓLICAS
CONSORCIO DE ESCUELAS CATÓLICAS
OFICINA DE DOCENCIA Y ASUNTOS FEDERALES



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Memorando 11-12-17-SB Docente

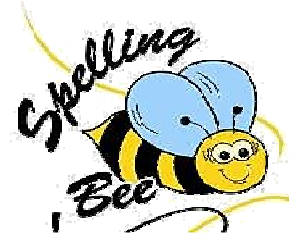
October 4, 2011

All Directors, Principals, English Coordinators, Teachers and Students of the Catholic Schools of the Archdiocese of San Juan

Sister Mary Ellen Gemmell, CSFN
 Spelling Bee 2011-2012 Coordinator

Mrs. Jacqueline Díaz Santos
 Associate Superintendent
 Teaching and Federal Affairs

Mrs. Ana Cortés Crespo
 Superintendent of Catholic Schools



2011-2012

2011-2012 TENTH ANNUAL ARCHDIOCESAN SPELLING BEE

The Superintendent of Catholic Schools invites you to participate in “The Tenth Annual Archdiocesan Spelling Bee”. The purpose of the contest is to **strengthen our bonds of love, concern and friendship by sharing our knowledge of language.**

The song, “Word by Word”, by Peter Bliss form **Prentice Hall Regents/Ensign Music Corporation, best summarizes the purpose of our Spelling Bee:

WORD BY WORD

Word by word! Word by word! We bring the world a little closer together.

Word by word! Word by word! We discover we're all sisters and brothers,
 Learning about each other...word by word!

Saying “Hello” with a smile is a language everyone can understand.

Word by word we're creating a new way for everyone to all join hands. (Chorus)

Look how the earth is getting smaller! Now there aren't any far-off distant lands.

We've become a world of neighbors, sharing hopes and dreams all people understand. (Chorus)

So many faces from places far away! Word by word we make new friends day by day. (Chorus)

With this message of unity in mind, we present the following: The rules for the Spelling Bee; the dates; an opportunity to respond, affirming your participation with the required quota per school for participation. The 2011-2012 lists of words were sent via e-mail. **The quota (\$75.00) will cover costs of trophies and medals for the January, 2012 competition, not individual school bees. This quota must be sent to the Superintendent's office before December 1st, 2011.**

RULES

1. School champions participating in the bee must be the appropriate Grade level: Primary -- Grades 1, 2, 3; Elementary -- Grades 4, 5, 6; Junior High -- Grades 7, 8, 9; High School -- Grades 10, 11, 12.
2. The competition will be oral and letters must be pronounced in English, with eliminations on a "miss-and-out" basis, except as provided in rules 12 and 13.
3. All contests will have a "practice round" before the actual competition.
4. Entries will be taken from the lists prepared by the Office of the Superintendent:
 - Lists for Grades 1 through 3 will be prepared from Scholastic First Dictionary, Editor in chief, Judith S. Levey, 1998.
 - Lists for Grades 4 through 6 will be prepared from Scholastic Children's Thesaurus, John K. Bollard, 1998.
 - Lists for Grades 7 through 9 will be prepared from Vocabulary Workshop, Introductory, 1st and 2nd Course, and for Grades 10 through 12, Vocabulary Workshop, Introductory, 3rd, and 4th and 5th Course, Holt, Reinhart, Wilson.
 - School teachers, school administrators, librarians and parents may purchase these books in order to utilize the study guides, pronunciation clues, sentences and meanings.
5. If we have used all the words on the list provided per level, we will use a special list of words of champion spellers prepared by the Office of the Superintendent.
6. Words shall be pronounced according to the Merriam Webster Dictionary.
7. Students from Grades 1, 2, and 3 will be given the word and a sentence. Contestants may request a definition by saying, "Definition, please." Contestants may request that the word be repeated by saying, "Please Repeat." Contestants from Grades 4 and above may request a sentence by saying, "Sentence please." Contestants from Grades 7 and above may request the language of origin of the word in question. After all above-mentioned options have been utilized; the contestant must spell the word. Judges are responsible to determine if time allotted to the contestant is reasonable.
8. In competition, after the pronouncer gives the contestant a word, he or she will: Say the word, spell the word and say the word again. If the word is capitalized, the student must say, "**Capital** January." If the word has an apostrophe, (o'clock) the student must say, **apostrophe** where it appears in the word. If the word has a hyphen, (sons-in-law) the student must say, **hyphen** where it appears in the word.
9. The judges may disqualify any contestant who ignores a request to start spelling.
10. Having started to spell a word, a contestant may stop and start over, retracing the spelling from the beginning, but **in retracing the spelling there can be no change of letters or their sequence from those first pronounced**. If letters or their sequences are changed in the re-spelling, the speller will be **disqualified**.
11. The Spelling Bee will be conducted in rounds. Each contestant remaining in the bee at the start of a round shall spell one word in the round, except when there remain only two contestants.
12. Upon missing the spelling of a word, a contestant immediately drops out of the contest, except as provided in rules 12 and 13. The next word is given to the next contestant.
13. If none of the contestants remaining in the bee at the start of a round spells a word correctly during the round, all shall remain in the competition.
14. If only one of the contestants remaining in the bee at the start of a round spells a word correctly during that round, the contestant shall be given an opportunity to spell the next word on the list. If the contestant succeeds in correctly spelling the new word, the contestant shall be declared the champion. Otherwise, all contestants remaining in the bee at the start of the round shall remain in the competition. A new round will begin with all of the contestants spelling in their original order.
15. If more than one spelling is listed for a word, any of these spellings listed as correct will be accepted provided that the word matches the pronunciation and the definition given (if requested by the speller).

16. If a word has one or more homonyms, the pronouncer **will indicate** which word is to be spelled; for example, *pear* – the fruit.
17. Any question relating to the spelling of a word should be referred to the designated official immediately in writing on the official form provided on the day of the contest. The form needs to be given **before the end** of the round in which the word was given in order to rectify a possible error.
18. The judges are in complete control of the bee and their decision will be final.
19. No videos or audio taping are allowed during the bee.
20. No word lists may be used during the competition by contestants nor by teachers and parents who are guests for the bee.
21. All **cell phones must be turned off** from the invocation until the last trophy is awarded.
22. All photos or video taken by the Office of the Superintendent will be used for publications that promote Catholic education **as indicated by the participating school's permission authorization**. All parents or guardians will sign the release indicating the above-mentioned authorization for photo use.
23. The Office of the Superintendent will transmit the bee through closed circuit TV so that parents and participating schools can share the joy of the Bee while giving participants peace of mind and heart from start to finish.

DATES

Individual school competitions must be held between on or before **December 9, 2011**. Three students per school per level will compete in the Archdiocesan competition. Principals and teachers will organize their Bee and may decide how the competition will take place: an oral bee or a written test. An oral bee is highly recommended in order to prepare students properly.

Participation forms are to be sent to the Superintendent's office no later than **December 15, 2011**. It is not necessary to send the names of students. On the day of their contest, they will be registered as they enter. The Archdiocesan contest will be held in **January, 2012** on the days listed below. **Students and their teachers may attend.**

January 17, 2012 – Grades **10, 11, 12** - 8:30 am
January 18, 2012 – Grades **7, 8, 9** - 8:30 am
January 19, 2012 – Grades **4, 5, 6** - 8:30 am
January 20, 2012 – Grades **1, 2, 3** - 8:30 am

Please have students bring a snack with them. In addition, if the competition extends beyond 11:30 am, we will break for 45 minutes (or for a period acceptable to those present) so that students and their teachers can have lunch. In the plan for this year, we ask that all students bring a snack and a lunch. Because time is precious, we cannot wait for students whose parents or teachers wish to take them off the premises to eat.

For additional information, please contact Mrs. Jacqueline Díaz at (787) 340-7828, (787) 731-6100 Ext. 237, jdiaz@secsj.net; or Marilourdes Miranda at (787) 731-6100, mmiranda@secsj.net.

**We are looking forward to enjoying this activity as well as the academic growth that it will bring.
God bless you always!!**

See attached document.