

News Release

For immediate release

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Four elementary students named top spellers in county

Winning students from Wilson School, Marguerite Hahn Elementary School, Luther Burbank School and West Side School

Twenty students competed in the 2016 Sonoma County Elementary Spelling Competition held on Monday, March 7, at the Sonoma County Office of Education (SCOE). This annual event brings the county's best fourth, fifth, and sixth grade spellers together in a competition designed to promote and acknowledge exemplary student achievement. These students previously won school and regional spelling competitions, which made them eligible to compete for the title of county spelling champion.

Caleb Poole, a sixth-grader from Wilson School in Petaluma, won first in the competition. He broke the tie in the eighth-round by spelling "scuttlebutt" correctly, then spelling "claustrophobia" to win the event.

Second place went to fifth-grader Kasey Adamski, who attends Marguerite Hahn Elementary School in Rohnert Park. Sixth-grader Yuridiana Espinosa, from Luther Burbank School in Santa Rosa, took third place and Jake Gordon, a sixth-grader from West Side School in Healdsburg, earned the fourth-place award.

All spellers received a certificate of accomplishment, participation ribbon, and a souvenir. The four top-place spellers received trophies to mark their achievement. First and second place winners are eligible to advance to the 2016 California State Elementary Spelling Championship, which will be held at the San Joaquin County Office of Education in the Wentworth Education Center, 2707 Transworld Drive in Stockton on Saturday, April 23.



- 1 — Caleb Poole, grade 6, Wilson School
- 2 — Kasey Adamski, grade 5, Marguerite Hahn Elementary School
- 3 — Yuridiana Espinosa, grade 6, Luther Burbank School
- 4 — Jake Gordon, grade 6, West Side School

- 5 — Addison Pickrell, grade 5, Sequoia School
- 6 — Santiago Cubillos, grade 6, Mary Collins at Cherry Valley Charter School
- 7 — Krystal Luong, grade 6, Hidden Valley School
- 8 — P. J. Rousche, grade 6, The Healdsburg School
- 9 — Kevin McCune, grade 5, Olivet Charter School
- 10 — Tyler Whitehorn, grade 5, Gravenstein Elementary School
- 11 — Sophia Omiple, grade 4, Madrone School
- 12 — Griffin Quan, grade 6, Santa Rosa Accelerated Charter School
- 13 — Skyelar Kind, grade 6, Strawberry School
- 14 — James Kurniawan, grade 4, Meadow School
- 15 — Nick Petersen, grade 6, Lawrence E. Jones Middle School
- 16 — Jacob Alexander, grade 4, Geyserville Elementary School
- 17 — Stuart Hartman, grade 6, Olivet Charter School
- 18 — Bella Ferguson, grade 6, Hillcrest Middle School
- 19 — Zachary Scholnick, grade 6, Sixth Grade Academy
- 20 — Miguel Brennan, grade 6, Cinnabar Elementary School