

Rules for the Spelling Bee PVES 2008

Semifinal- Friday, April 18, 8:00 – 9:00 am

Final –Thursday, May 1, 7:00 – 8:30 pm

1. The students in each small group will be arranged in a specific order.
2. On the student's turn, he or she will stand and step forward. (In the finalist competition only, at every turn the student will be required to step up to the microphone to spell his/her word.)
3. In competition, after the pronouncer gives the speller a word, the speller will be encouraged to pronounce the word before spelling it and after spelling it. The judges may not disqualify a speller for failing to pronounce the word either before or after spelling it.
4. The speller may ask the pronouncer to say the word again, define it, and/or provide the part of speech.
5. Having started to spell a word a speller may stop and start over, retracing the spelling from the beginning. In retracing, however, there can be no change of letters or their sequence from those first pronounced. If letters or their sequence are changed in the respelling, the speller will be eliminated.
6. The competition shall be conducted in rounds. Each speller remaining in the spelling bee at the start of a round shall spell one word in the round, except when there are only two spellers remaining.
7. Upon missing the spelling of a word, a speller immediately drops out of the competition and the next word on the pronouncer's list is given to the next speller, except when there are only two spellers remaining.
8. When the number of spellers is reduced to two, the elimination procedure changes. At that point, when one speller misspells a word, the other speller shall be given an opportunity to spell that same word. If the second speller spells that word correctly, plus the next word on the pronouncer's list, then the second speller shall be declared the champion. If the second speller corrects the word spelling, but incorrectly spells the second word, the first speller is given an entirely different word, and the whole process begins again. If both spellers misspell the same word, both shall continue in the competition, and the one who first misspelled the word shall be given a new word to spell.
In the semi-final round (class-room competition), the final two spellers will advance to the final.
9. The speller shall not be disqualified for failing to note that a word is capitalized.
10. The judges are in complete control of the competition. Their decision shall be final on all questions.
11. All participants should be quiet while a speller is spelling a word.