

NEWS RELEASE - For immediate release

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 Organization:
 Solano County Office of Education

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Solano County 2021 Spelling Bee Champions Announced

FAIRFIELD, CA – On Tuesday, April 13th, at 6:00 PM the Solano County Office of Education hosted the final round of the 45th Annual Solano County Student Spelling Bee. The Spelling Bee is open to all public and private schools serving 4th – 6th grade students. This year, 25 schools participated in the preliminary round, each eligible to register two top spellers in this week's competition. The Bee's final round was held via Zoom this year so the public could watch the top 10 student spellers from Solano County compete for the title of Solano County champion speller.

"Student spellers work hard and spend hours studying, learning the origins and roots of the words and exploring grammatical functions," remarked Solano County Superintendent of Schools Lisette Estrella-Henderson. "These skills often help students in other academic areas."

This year, Vacaville Unified School District and Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District boast the top two elementary spellers in Solano County. Olivia Miyashiro, a 6th grader from Cooper Elementary School in Vacaville, correctly spelled "faucet" for the first place position. Xian Felicisimo, a 4th grader from Nelda Mundy Elementary School in Fairfield, was a formidable competitor who won second place overall.

Miyashiro and Felicismo earned their victories after a preliminary round with 43 spellers, followed by a grueling one-hour virtual competition where students were asked to spell words that ranged from "sword" to "unconstitutional" and "poussette."

Solano County Office of Education congratulates all students who represented their schools in the 2021 Solano Spelling Bee.

For more information about the Spelling Bee competition, contact Ken Scarberry, Director of Youth Development, at 707-646-7601 or <u>youthdev@solanocoe.net</u>.

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Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) provides leadership, support, and fiscal oversight for charter schools and Benicia, Dixon, Fairfield-Suisun, Travis, Vacaville, and Vallejo school districts which serve approximately 63,000 students. Solano County Superintendent of Schools, Lisette Estrella-Henderson is elected by voters of Solano County. The Superintendent is a state constitutional officer who serves as the chief executive officer of SCOE and as a liaison between local school districts and the state.