

# Let the DISTRICT FINALS Begin!

Article by Debbie Hunt

Thirty-three top-notch spellers from The Chronicle-Telegram readership area schools will convene Thursday at Avon Middle School to contend for the coveted Championship trophy and a place in the 95th Annual Scripps National Spelling Bee Competition. These impressive youths will tackle spelling words provided by the Scripps National Spelling Bee organization guaranteed to thrill all advocates of spelling competitions. The spellers pictured here were successful in being the top spellers in using the Scripps online testing platform the week of Feb. 20.

Among the top spellers competing this Thursday is Ruben Jackson, this year's 1st place top speller from Eastern Heights Middle School. Ruben is coached by Bee Advisor, Charlene Hartley. 2nd place was tied by Aiden Hall of Midview Middle School, coached by Bee Advisor Lisa Simpson and Peter Day of Brookside Middle School, coached by Jessica Schremp. Our 3rd place top speller was Katelyn Smith from Sailorway Middle School and is coached by Bee Advisor Laura Nabors.

The thirteen schools represented in the Final Bee

for our region are Avon Middle School, Brookside Middle School, Durling Middle School, Eastern Hts. Middle School, First Baptist Christian School, Holy Trinity School, Langston Middle School, Learwood Middle School, Midview Middle School, Sailorway Middle School, St. Jude, Elyria, St. Peter School, Lorain and Vermilion High School.

The ESC/Chronicle-Telegram Spelling Bee is coordinated by Debbie Hunt of the Educational Service Center of Lorain County and the volunteer staff is

composed of personnel from the Educational Service Center and education professionals from various school districts

throughout Lorain County. The Pronouncer is Bruce Van Dyke, from radio station WEOL. Participation is open to all seventh and eighth graders in all public, private, parochial, and home schools in the Chronicle-Telegram readership area.

This 39th annual District Finals Spelling Bee Competition will send our Champion-to-be to the 95th Annual Scripps National Spelling Bee Competition during Memorial Day week in Washington D.C.

We recognize our sponsors for this bee, without their support this event could not happen: Community Foundation of Lorain County, Emerson/Ridge Tool Company, Merriam-Webster Dictionary Company, Ohio Lottery, Educational Service Center of Lorain County and The Chronicle-Telegram. We would like to thank these sponsors.

For those who may be interested in viewing the Scripps National Spelling Bee competition, ION, Bounce and Laff will televise the Semifinals. Times and dates have not been released.



**1st Place**

Ruben Jackson  
Eastern Heights



**2nd Place**

Aiden Hall  
Midview Middle School



**3rd Place**

Katelyn Smith  
Sailorway Middle School



**March 9, 2023**



Julius Bauzo  
Avon Middle School



Lucy Carrion  
Avon Middle School



Reagan Sudik  
Avon Middle School



Peter Day  
Brookside Middle School



Hailie Trager  
Brookside Middle School



Lauryn Gibson  
Brookside Middle School



Wanderlei Long  
Brookside Middle School



Samantha Kahnert  
Durling Middle School



Bridget Smith  
Durling Middle School



Ani Buzzard  
Eastern Heights



Mason McGinnis  
Eastern Heights



Aubri Taylor  
Eastern Heights



Rowan White  
First Baptist Christian School



Liam McConnell  
Holy Trinity



Jesse Canterbury  
Langston Middle School



Sylvia Nisky  
Langston Middle School



Marcus Ploenzke  
Langston Middle School



Finn Dorsey  
Learwood Middle School



Melina Lee  
Learwood Middle School



Carol Oommen  
Learwood Middle School



Chace Semmelroth  
Learwood Middle School



Michael Snavelly  
Learwood Middle School



Madelyn Czellath  
Midview Middle School



Carter Evans  
Midview Middle School



Destiny Nguyen  
Midview Middle School



Vernon Smith  
Sailorway Middle School



Adam Ornella  
St. Jude Elyria



Aiden Kremetz  
St. Jude Elyria



Lilly Clapper  
St. Peter Lorain



Timothy Anders  
Vermilion High School