

## Performance & Non-Performance Academic Judging information 2024

### JUDGES

The judges are an extremely important part of the competition. They are volunteers from the participating schools. Every attempt will be made to have three judges (one head judge and two assistants) in every category. All individuals (faculty, staff, parents, etc.) who feel qualified in a particular area are urged to volunteer. Judges should be familiar with the rules and responsibilities that they are responsible to judge (including judging forms) before arriving at Fine Arts Competition. These forms are a part of this document.

Judges should attempt to remain on campus throughout the competition or, at a minimum, until their category has been completed *and the Competition/Tally office has approved the awarding of places for that category.*

**Parents should never judge a competition where their own child is a competitor.**

#### Thursday

1. Each entry must have 3 judging forms included. Student information must be filled out, but the judging area is left blank.
2. Volunteers to judge **non-performing** entries should be at the host school by **12:00 p.m.** A judging meeting will promptly start at 12:00 for nonperformance categories. Please make sure you have brought the correct ratio of judges to projects submitted.
3. Lunches will be provided for the judges.

#### Friday

1. Judges should report to the judge's meeting room at **9:00 a.m.**
2. Lunches will be provided for the judges.

### BIBLE MEMORY

This is a memory competition. Students will be expected to memorize a book or passage of the Bible, then quote it in front of a judging panel. Each word will count as one point. Students will need to bring three paper copies of the book or passage being quoted for judges to notate. Students will be allowed three prompts from judges, but judges will only prompt when asked by the student.

1. If a word is mumbled or unclear it will count against the student.
2. Only the King James Bible will be used.
3. If a student misses a word, they will lose one point per missed word.
4. If a student adds a word, they will lose one point per added word.
5. The student with the highest score will be awarded first place. The first-place individual does not have to quote the entire passage, just have the highest score.
6. If a student says something incorrect directly before they ask for a prompt, the words spoken incorrectly will still count against the student.

If there are more than 15 students competing in a particular age group, this competition will turn into a Spelling Bee style competition. Students will line up youngest to oldest and will quote one verse at a time until there is a winner. Only, the last two students standing will follow double elimination rules.

**The Bible Memory Passage for 2024: Proverbs 4-6( 4<sup>th</sup> -9<sup>th</sup> grade) add chapters 7 & 8 for 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>**

### SPELLING TEST

#### **4<sup>th</sup> -6<sup>th</sup> grade**

The lists of spelling words are found in this section of the manual; please be sure to use the correct list for the current year. The words must be spelled exactly as they appear on these lists (including capitalization).

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Each school is allowed to bring three spelling contestants for this grade division competition: three 4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> graders.

Each contestant is given a lined, pre-numbered paper provided by the Host School. This competition for 4th - 6th grades will be a written test consisting of 30 words. The judge will pronounce the word twice and use it in a sentence. Contestants will then write the word. Each contestant will write all the words. Following the final word, the judges will collect all papers and grade them. Winners will be selected according to accuracy. Judges will give at least two practice words before starting the competition.

In the event of a tie in 4-6th grade, a bee will be held. In the event that all 4-6th grade words have been spelled correctly, the judge will go on to the 7-9<sup>th</sup> grade level list. In the event of oral competition, these are the rules:

1. Contestants may repeat letters he/she already stated but may not correct mistakes.
2. No set time limit, but judge might limit "think time"
3. Bell will be rung for incorrect spellings. When a contestant misspells one word, the speller immediately drops out of the competition. At this point they will leave the platform.
4. The pronouncer strives to pronounce the words accurately, and at the request of the speller will give a definition, use in sentence, or re-pronounce the given word.
5. A second judge will be writing down the letters as they are given to verify with the head judge that the word is correct.
6. When there are two remaining spellers, the contestant is not eliminated until the competitor spells the misspelled word correctly and one additional word. If both contestants misspell the word, a new word is given.

### **SPELLING BEE**

#### **7th- 12th Grades**

The judge will read the word which the contestant will repeat if desired and then spell. The contestant may ask for a definition of the word and a sentence that uses the word. The pronouncer shall grant the request until the judges agree that the word has been reasonably clear to the contestant. The contestant has 15 seconds to spell the word. Once the student responds either by repeating the word or starting to spell, they are given 15 seconds to complete the word. The contestant does not have to pronounce the word first, but if he does say the word and pronounces it incorrectly the student will be corrected, assuring that he is spelling the word correctly. All repeating is included in the time limit.

Each school may send their three best competitors for each grade level division. (Three students from 7th – 9th grade, and three students from 10th-12th grades).

1. All contestants will be arranged in a single line and words will be given from left to right, facing the judges
2. Words shall be announced according to the diacritical markings in Webster's Dictionary.
3. The contestant has 15 seconds to spell the word.
4. After starting to spell a word, a contestant may stop and start over, retracing the spelling from the beginning, but there can be no change of letters or their sequence.
5. There will be two rounds through with the words from the list. The third round will begin with words from the next level's word list. The fourth round will be chosen at the Spell Master's discretion.
6. The 7-9th and 10-12th grade competitors will use the list provided in this book. Elementary grades will use the next grade level's list.
7. This is a double elimination competition. Upon misspelling two words, the contestant immediately drops out of the contest. The next word of the pronouncer's list is given to the next contestant.
8. **When the contestants are reduced to two**, the head spelling judge will stop the competition and review the rules for ending the competition. If the student with one miss misspells another word and the other student still has

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not missed a word, then the student with no errors is declared the winner. However, if he misses one word, go to next explanation of rules.

9. When the contestants are reduced to two and **both contestants have missed one word**, the elimination procedure changes. At that point, when one contestant misspells a word, the other contestant shall be given an opportunity to spell that same word and the next word on the list. If the second contestant spells both words correctly, then the second contestant shall be declared the champion.

10. Any question relating to the judging of a word should be referred to the judges before the beginning of the next round. Only school sponsors may make a challenge; parents may not voice a concern to the spell master or the school sponsor.

11. In the event that all the spelling list words are used and the competition is continuing, the head spelling judge will use the list from the next grade level up. 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade will use the list for the next year. For example, if List "A" is being used in the competition, and the list has been exhausted, the head judge will continue the competition using words from List "B".

### HISTORY PROJECTS (Grades 4-12)

- A. The project base must be no larger than 3 X 5 feet. There is no height restriction.
- B. The project must be entirely the work of the student. Adult help should be given only verbally (i.e., advice or instruction). Each project must be accompanied by the Judge's Information Sheet (On back of the judging sheet) that tells exactly how much parental help was given. Some parental help may be given in the area of power tools, etc., for younger students. Their help must also be reported on the Judge's Information Sheet.
- C. Two students, competing in the same grade division, may work together on the History Project.
- D. Requirements:
- Format – both handwritten copy and typed copy (matching – adult may type as written, and help with proofreading, but must not tell student what to write)
  - Font and margin – Times New Roman 12 point double-spaced, one-inch margins
  - Research – **A bibliography and an outline are required (Footnotes are required for 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade)**
  - Minimum Length (not including bibliography and outline)
    - 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> – 2 full pages
    - 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> – 3 full pages
    - 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> – 5 full pages
- E. The project must show the importance of a current event, an historical event, a person in history or report on cultural awareness or cultural differences in a country throughout our world. The more original the display, the higher the score will be in the originality category. Students should be rewarded for presenting a well-constructed, conservative, Biblical worldview. Specifically, the more advanced grades should exhibit the student's ability to think critically. The paper should include an outline and bibliography.
- F. The projects will be evaluated in the following areas:

#### Content

30%

- Information presented accurately (5 points)
- Emphasizes important parts (5 points)
- Content is presented with correct grammar (5 points)
- Inclusion of strong thesis statement (5 points)
- Information presented is well organized (5 points)

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- The paper has a Bibliography pages (7<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> must use footnotes as well) (5 points)
- Display 25%
- Student's work shows carefulness and neatness (5 points)
  - Impact of display emphasizes thesis and its supporting points (5 points)
  - Artistic work supports the thesis (5 points)
  - The exhibit displays creativity (5 points)
  - The student's work displays skill (5 points)
- Originality 20%
- The exhibit presents a unique idea in presentation material (10 points)
  - It displays clarity of material (10 points)
- Project's Impact 25%
- The exhibit draws a conclusion (13 points)
  - The exhibit shows the importance of the event, the person, or the cultural awareness discussed relative to the thesis (12 points)

### VIII. SCIENCE EXPERIMENT PROJECT (Grades 7-12)

- A. The project base must be no larger than 3 X 5 feet. 7<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade should be biological or physical experiment based. Projects should arrive at the host school on Thursday before the Friday competition.
- B. Schools bringing projects that require special equipment or resources (water, drain, electricity, etc.) should inform the host school of that need **before** the day of the competition.
- C. Requirements:
- Scientific method: **All 7<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade science projects must demonstrate a scientific method and must include a logbook, showing the student's day by day findings.** The projects are to present a theory, prove or disprove it through experiment, and draw a conclusion.
  - Format – Report must be handwritten *and* typed (parents may type exactly as student has written)
  - Report Maximum Length – 2 pages double-spaced 12-point Times New Roman
  - Judges Information Sheet
  - Biblical Abstract or Principle – in paper or on board or both (does not have to be a Bible verse)
- D. Every project must be accompanied by a report in the student's own handwriting. This paper should then be typed, exactly as the child has written it. (Typing may be done by an adult.) For the efficiency of the judges' time, the typed copy may not exceed two double-spaced pages. Both the typewritten copy and the handwritten original papers will accompany the project in order for it to be judged. The paper must be the student's own words, not copied from a source. Parents may proofread but should not tell the student what to write.
- E. The project must be entirely the work of the student. Adult help may be given only in the verbal sense of giving advice or instruction. Each project must be accompanied by the Judge's Information Sheet with a detailed description of any help that the student received from parents or teachers. It is understood that younger students may need some help with power tools, etc., but even that help must be reported on the Judge's Information Sheet. Individual schools will validate the Judge's Information Sheet before copying it on the back of the judging sheet.
- F. **7<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade projects should include a biblical abstract or principle that is related to this area of scientific study or to an aspect of the project.** This principle should either be included in the display or the paper or both. A Bible verse, on the board or in the paper, is not required.
- G. Two students, competing in the same grade division, may work together on the Science Project.

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### VIV. SCIENCE RESEARCH PROJECT (Grades 4-6)

- A. This project will be similar to 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> but may be more of a “research project” (e.g.: blue whales; an experiment is not required. However, projects that show the scientific method will be graded higher). Each project must be accompanied by a report in the child’s own handwriting. This paper must then be typed, exactly as the student had written it. (An adult may do the typing.) It should be double-spaced and use the Times New Roman 12 font. Include both the typewritten copy and the handwritten original with the project.
- B. The project base must be no larger than 3 X 5 feet.
- C. Projects should arrive at the host school on Thursday before the Friday competition.
- D. The project must be entirely the work of the student. Adult help should be given only verbally (i.e. advice or instruction). Each project must be accompanied by the Judge’s Information Sheet (On back of the judging sheet) that tells exactly how much parental help was given.
- E. The paper must be in the student’s own words. It must not be copied from a source. Parents may help with the proofreading but should not tell the students what to write. The essay is to be a **MAXIMUM** of 2 pages. These page requirements do NOT include the outline and bibliography.
- F. This project will be judged on the following:

**Research & Development:** Thorough research, irrefutable references, knowledgeable & logical presentation paper in good form. Information presented accurately. Content is presented with correct grammar. Inclusion of strong thesis statement. Information presented is well organized.

**Technical Skill and Display:** Neat, attracts attention, creatively designed

**Topic:** Appropriate for grade level. Interesting and easy to incorporate into a specific field of science. (Biology, chemistry, physics, etc.)

**Biblical Abstract:** Paper does not need to have a Bible verse, but it does need to support a biblical principle.

**Conclusions & Findings:** Substantial, reliable & beneficial findings.

Offense	Deductions (Points Off)
No Artist Idea/ Judging Sheet/ Project Information Sheet	Disqualified
Not Properly Tagged	3
Not Matted (if required)	3
Placed in Wrong Category	Disqualified
Exceeds Size Limits	4

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## JUDGING FORM – HISTORY – (4<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade)

Name:	Grade:
School:	

Title:
Contestants must score at least 50% to qualify to place.

JUDGING CRITERIA	Comments	Points
<b>Content</b> Information is presented accurately (5 points) It emphasizes important points (5 points) Correct grammar (5 points) Strong thesis statement (5 points) Information is organized (5 points) The paper has a Bibliography pages (7 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> must use footnotes as well) (5 points)		
<b>Display</b> The student’s work shows carefulness and neatness (5 points) The impact of display emphasizes the thesis (5 points) All artistic work supports the thesis (5 points) The Exhibit displays creativity (5 points) The student’s work demonstrates skill (5 points)		
<b>Originality</b> The exhibit presents a unique idea in presentation of material (10 points) It displays clarity of material (10 points)		
<b>Project’s Impact</b> The exhibit draws a conclusion (13 points) It shows the importance of the event, the person, or the cultural awareness or cultural difference in the country discussed relative to the thesis (12 points)		
<b>Total</b>		

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 (Judge's Signature)

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### JUDGING FORM - SCIENCE EXPERIMENT PROJECT (7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade)

Name:	Grade:
Please check one: <input type="checkbox"/> Biological Science <input type="checkbox"/> Physical Science (Please make host school aware of any special needs: water, electricity)	
School:	

Title:
Contestants must score at least 50% to qualify to place.

JUDGING CRITERIA	Comments	Points
<b>Research &amp; Development: Including research paper, and other areas of speech.</b> <b>Excellent:</b> Thorough research, irrefutable references, knowledgeable & logical presentation paper in good form (26-30 Pts.) <b>Very Good:</b> lacking slightly in certain areas (21-25 Pts.) <b>Good:</b> Some inaccuracies and /or faulty reasoning (10-20 Pts.)		(30 Points Possible)
<b>The Experiment:</b> <b>Excellent:</b> Thorough research, irrefutable references, knowledgeable & logical presentation paper (26-30 Pts.) <b>Very Good:</b> Same as above but lacking slightly in certain areas. (21-25 Pts.) <b>Good:</b> Definite inadequacy in above areas (10-20 Pts.)		(30 Points Possible)
<b>The Logbook</b>		(10 Points Possible)
<b>Biblical Abstract:</b> Board and/or paper does not need to have a Bible verse, but it does need to support a biblical principle.		(10 Points Possible)
<b>Conclusions &amp; Findings:</b> <b>Excellent:</b> Substantial, reliable & beneficial findings (10 Pts) <b>Good:</b> Satisfactory work with a few flaws (6-9 Pts.) <b>Poor:</b> Results inconsistent with data (0-5 Pts.)		(10 Points Possible)
<b>Technical Skill &amp; Display:</b> <b>Excellent:</b> Craftsmanship & Visual media are excellent (10 Pts) <b>Good:</b> Craftsmanship & visual media are acceptable (6-9 Pts) <b>Poor:</b> Exhibit shows lack of craftsmanship and poor presentation of visual media (0-5 Pts)		(10 Points Possible)
	<b>Total</b>	

(Judge's Signature)

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**JUDGING FORM - SCIENCE RESEARCH PROJECT (4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade)**

Name:	Grade:
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School:
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Title:
Contestants must score at least 50% to qualify to place.

JUDGING CRITERIA	Comments	Points
<b>Research &amp; Development:</b> <b>Excellent:</b> Thorough research, irrefutable references, knowledgeable & logical presentation. Information presented accurately. Content is presented with correct grammar. Inclusion of strong thesis statement. (26-30 Pts.) <b>Very Good:</b> lacking slightly in certain areas (21-25 Pts.) <b>Good:</b> Some inaccuracies and /or faulty reasoning (10-20 Pts.)		(30 Points Possible)
<b>The Topic:</b> <b>Excellent:</b> Appropriate for grade level. Interesting and easy to incorporate into a specific field of science. (Biology, chemistry, physics, etc. (26-30 Pts) <b>Very Good:</b> Slightly difficult to fit into a scientific category. (21-25 Pts) <b>Good:</b> Scientific inaccuracies within the project. (10-20 Pts)		(30 Points Possible)
<b>Biblical Abstract:</b> Board and/or paper does not need to have a Bible verse, but it does need to support a biblical principle.		(20 Points Possible)
<b>Conclusions &amp; Findings:</b> <b>Excellent:</b> Substantial, reliable & beneficial findings (17-25 Pts) <b>Good:</b> Satisfactory work with a few flaws (9-16 Pts.) <b>Poor:</b> Results inconsistent with data (0-8 Pts.)		(20 Points Possible)
<b>Total</b>		

\_\_\_\_\_ (Judge's Signature)

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