



Salem-Keizer's best spellers qualify for regional contest

Salem, Ore., March 7, 2012 – The best spellers in the Salem-Keizer School District squared off Wednesday during the annual Salem-Keizer School District Spelling Contest at Crossler Middle School.

In the end, 13 students – five elementary, five middle and three high school – were recognized among their top spelling peers. The first place winner in each division will represent the district at the Regional Spelling Contest in April.

Division I – Elementary School

- First place - **Braeden Dieker, Morningside Elementary School**
- Second place - Hailey Yoder, Pringle Elementary School
- Third place - Brinsley Hammond-Brouwer, Valley Inquiry Charter School
- Fourth place - Kaitlin Oakes, Chapman Hill Elementary School
- Fifth place - Ellie Bertholf, Hammond Elementary School

Division II– Middle School

- First place - Ben Beckstrom, Walker Middle School
- Second place - Shanti Basu, Judson Middle School
- Third place - Telicia Hixson, Leslie Middle School
- Fourth place - Asa Yunker, Crossler Middle School
- Fifth place - Julie Larimer, Whiteaker Middle School

Division III – High School

- First place - Freya Ruehr, Sprague High School
- Second place - Anirudh Appachar, South Salem High School
- Third place - Tori Roseborough, South Salem High School

The top five finishers in Divisions I and II combined and the top three finishers in Division III all received cash prizes from the Salem Kiwanis Club.

The written form contest was produced by the Salem-Keizer Education Foundation and the Salem Kiwanis Club. It featured 16 elementary, 26 middle and 8 high school students representing 28 Salem-Keizer Public Schools.

The Oregon Statewide Spelling Contest takes place September 1, 2012 at the Oregon State Fair.