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## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Feagin Mill Middle School Student Wins the Houston County School District Spelling Bee Runner-up from Bonaire Middle School**



HOUSTON COUNTY, GA – Feagin Mill Middle School student, Briana Pham, won the Houston County School District’s 2024 Spelling Bee on January 23. She was the top speller out of 27 contestants and won with the correct spelling of the final word, “unscathed.” Bonaire Middle School student, Colby Hollar, won second place.

Briana and Colby, both seventh graders, will represent Houston County as they compete in the Georgia Association of Educators (GAE) District 6 Bee. The regional bee is scheduled for February 24 and will be held at the District’s Central Office in Perry. The District 6 winner will compete in the State Spelling Bee at Georgia State University on March 15.

The full list of Houston County School District Spelling Bee winners from each school is listed below.

- Scarlet Ott, Bonaire Elementary School
- Colby Hollar, Bonaire Middle School
- Lily Johnson, Centerville Elementary School
- Colton Swanger, David A. Perdue Elementary School
- Riya Tailor, Eagle Springs Elementary School
- Briana Pham, Feagin Mill Middle School
- Harlen Rozier, Hilltop Elementary School
- Dallas Ford, Huntington Middle School

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- Whit Whitaker, Kings Chapel Elementary School
- Aliza Khan, Lake Joy Elementary School
- Ariel Lane, Langston Road Elementary School
- James Omboto, Matt Arthur Elementary School
- Mark Richardson, Miller Elementary School
- Jahmon Duncan, Morningside Elementary School
- Drisana Biswas, Mossy Creek Middle School
- Blaise Thomas, Northside Elementary School
- Lincoln Atkinson, Northside Middle School
- Jesus Romero Cannon, Parkwood Elementary School
- Anna Joyner, Pearl Stephens Elementary School
- Jack Lockhart, Perry Middle School
- Jackson DeVoursney, Quail Run Elementary School
- Skylure Windom, Russell Elementary School
- Penelope Anderson, Shirley Hills Elementary School
- Chayse O'Neal, Thomson Middle School
- Alyssa Dickson, Tucker Elementary School
- Atiya Williamson, Warner Robins Middle School
- Omari Walker, Westside Elementary School

In addition to spelling words, students participated in a vocabulary round which aligns with region and state spelling bees. The State Spelling Bee procedures, rules and regulations were followed. The Houston County Spelling Bee coordinators are Tenia Collins from Northside High School, and Katrina West from Morningside Elementary School. Brooke Herndon, media specialist at Morningside Elementary, called out the words.

The local spelling bee is sponsored by the GAE through the local Houston Association of Educators. For more information, please contact Language Arts Coordinator Dr. Amanda Yoh or Dr. Amy Fouse at (478) 988-6200.

Pictured (from left): Colby Hollar; Dr. Elgin Mayfield, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning, Houston County School District; and Briana Pham

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