**2015 HOPE Spelling Bee Guidelines**

1. Students must comply with all Scripps National and the local (Prince William County) rules or be subject to disqualification. A full list of rules can be found at [www.spellingbee.com](http://www.spellingbee.com)

2. Students must reside in Prince William County, Manassas Park City, or the City of Manassas.

3. There is no minimum age/grade level requirement. However, ALL students registered for the spelling bee will be spelling in one group. In other words, the bee is not divided into age levels.

4. Students and parents must exhibit appropriate behavior at all levels of the bee. Please refer to the HOPE Student Code of Conduct.

5. Students must be registered by the deadline as listed by HOPE and the parent is responsible for noting all dates, times, etc. for the bee.

6. Parents must provide the HOPE bee director with current contact information prior to the bee.

7. Registered students will receive a two-page study list of 225 words provided by Scripps National Spelling Bee.

8. The spelling bee will be conducted in oral rounds. Each speller remaining in the spelling bee at the start of a round spells one word in each round.

9. Some words used in the bee will NOT come from the study list. Instead, they were selected from Webster’s Third New International Dictionary.

10. “End of bee procedure”

– If only one speller in a round spells correctly, a new one-word spelling round begins and the speller is given an opportunity to spell a word (anticipated championship word) on the list. If the speller succeeds in correctly spelling the anticipated championship word in this one-word round, the speller is declared the champion.

- If the speller misspells the anticipated championship word in a one-word round, a new spelling round begins with ALL the spellers who participated in the previous round. These spellers spell in their original order.

11. The HOPE spelling bee will use the local rules of competition for all other areas of bee competition.

12. The HOPE spelling bee winner will advance to the Prince William Regional Spelling Bee to be held on March 11, 2016.