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## NEWS RELEASE

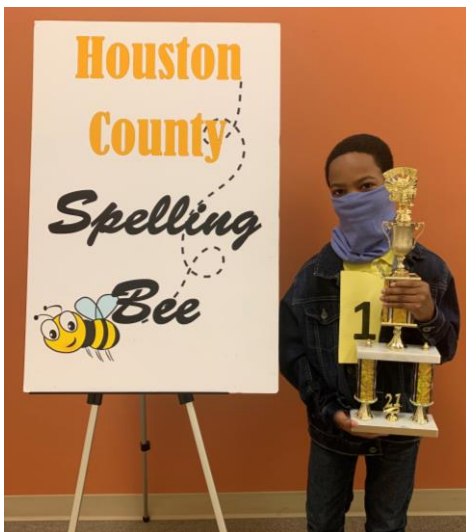
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### **Parkwood Elementary Student Wins 2<sup>nd</sup> Place at Region Spelling Bee, Advances to State**



HOUSTON COUNTY, GA - Parkwood Elementary School fifth-grader, Jaylen Jessie, won runner-up in the 2021 Region 6 Spelling Bee on Feb. 28, 2021. He finished second place out of 15 contestants in the regional competition. As the Region 6 Runner-Up, Jaylen received a trophy, State Spelling Bee ribbon, pin and \$100. He also qualified to compete at the state spelling bee.

The 2021 Georgia State Spelling Bee will be on Mar. 19 at 11:00 a.m. Jaylen will compete against 19 students in grades 4 through 8 from across the state. He advanced to the Region 6 Bee after winning the Houston County District 2021 Spelling Bee trophy on Jan. 25. Jaylen is pictured with the trophy he won at the school district event.

Parkwood Elementary Principal Dr. Greg Peavy commented, “We are super proud of Jaylen! He has done an exemplary job of representing his family and Parkwood. We wish him the best of luck moving forward.”

The state-level competition will utilize the same Scripps Testing Platform used for the region bee. The test will have 50 randomly selected words not used previously on a study list. The 20 finalists will take a test at home or school on Mar. 19 beginning at 11:00 a.m. The timed test of 30 minutes for 50 words will consist of 25 vocabulary and 25 spelling words. The two students with the highest scores will be named state champion and runner-up.

The state winner and runner-up will advance to the 2021 National Spelling Bee. These contestants will be narrowed to 10 to 12 spellers who will compete in Orlando, Fla. in July.

Parkwood Elementary is located at 503 Parkwood Drive in Warner Robins. Dr. Peavy may be reached at [Greg.Peavy@hcbe.net](mailto:Greg.Peavy@hcbe.net). The Bee is sponsored by the Georgia Association of Educators. For more information, please visit <https://gae.org/community-programs/gae-state-spelling-bee/>.

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