January 21, 2026

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For Immediate Release:

GSCS Announces District Spelling Bee Winner and Runner-Up

Griffin, GA – The Griffin-Spalding County School System (GSCS) held its annual spelling bee on January 16, 2026. After 16 spelling and vocabulary rounds, Carver Road Middle School Student Zoe Hatchett won with the word "silhouette."

The district runner-up is Crescent Elementary School Student Lucien Felth.

The annual spelling bee is open to grades 3-8. Each GSCS elementary and middle school held a competition in the Fall to select one student to advance to the district level (and one alternate who participates in the district bee only if the winner is unavailable).

The Griffin-Spalding Chapter of the Georgia Association of Educators (GAE) awarded the winner and the runner-up with trophies and gift cards.

Zoe Hatchett will compete against students from seven other counties in the GAE Regional Spelling Bee on February 28, 2026, in Conyers, GA.

Congratulations to all the school winners and special thanks to the coordinators.

School	Winner	Spelling Bee Coordinator(s)
Anne Street Elem.	Valeria Arreola	Michele Entrekin
Atkinson Elem.	Jamaurius Ponder	Shannon Barkley
Beaverbrook Elem.	J'Yah Davis	Todd Alexander
Carver Road Middle	Zoe Hatchett	Holly Brown
Cowan Road Elem.	Nyla Pelzer	Allison Baker
Cowan Road Middle	Jeremy Jones	Julie Evans
Crescent Elem.	Bobbie Jean Morris	Kelly Clark and Jessi Conner
Futral Road Elem.	James Escareno-Paz	Tiffany Fair and Anna Clare Jones
Jackson Road Elem.	Brycen Dickson	Lottie Harris and April Kisner
Jordan Hill Elem.	Aamir Pearman	Heather Ingram

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Griffin Spalding County Schools

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Superintendent

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Griffin, GA 30224
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Accredited by Cognia

School	Winner	Spelling Bee Coordinator(s)
Kennedy Road Middle	David Taylor	Courtney Bridges and Tiana Fowler
Moore Elem.	Aubrey Mathis	Jana Jordon
Moreland Road Elem.	Elijah Stephens	Jennifer Brantley
Orrs Elem.	Ayden Hamilton	Cheyanne Pullum
Rehoboth Road Middle	Christopher Poole	Rebecca Murray

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