

For Immediate Release
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The Westwood Educational Foundation Spelling Bee Was Buzzing!!!
13TH ANNUAL SPELLING BEE

Westwood, MA, March 12, 2009- “How do you spell ‘economist’?” the moderator, Loretta Eysie questioned last week in the third grade championship round of the WEF 2009 Thirteenth Annual Spelling Bee, sponsored by NStar. Twenty-two well prepared third grade teams competed on Wednesday, March 4th until an exciting final round was held between the Super Sonic Spellers of the Sheehan School (Evin Hazar, Caroline Kremer, Courtney Platt and Jacqueline DeLorey) and The Buzzers of the Downey School (Nani Doursounian, Keith Paik, Daniel O’Connor and Hannah Murphy). The Super Sonic Spellers eventually prevailed after a hard fought competition. On Thursday, March 5th, the fourth grade team of The Sonic Spellers (Jack Jordanides, Jacob Morris, Anusha Manglik and Sophie Medina) triumphed with the word “soliloquy”. Nineteen fourth grade teams provided some strong competition for this repeat winning team from last year. Fifth grade winners, the Spectacular Spellers, were also repeat winners, having won their 3rd, 4th and now 5th grade competitions. Team members, Aisha Chandraker, Shehla Chandraker & Natalie Perlov, were “gregarious” spellers.

The annual spelling bee, sponsored by the Westwood Educational Foundation, embodies the foundation’s mission to promote community spirit through lifelong enrichment opportunities for all members of the Westwood community. Over 200 children from the five Westwood elementary schools participated in 50 teams, sparking much enthusiasm

and energy for learning. Each of the children should be congratulated on the effort they exhibited in preparing for the competition: every one of them is a winner!

The Westwood Educational Foundation is a non-profit charitable organization founded in 1991 by Westwood resident Barbara Friedman. Its mission is to promote community spirit through lifelong enrichment opportunities for all members of the Westwood community. The Foundation is committed to encouraging learning beyond the traditional school curriculum and it supports initiatives that offer self-education opportunities for all members of the community. Since its inception, WEF has awarded more than \$586,000 in grants.

WEF extends a special thanks to the spelling bee lead sponsor, NStar, for their continued generosity and support.

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