



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Friday, January 18, 2019**

**Tupelo Public School District (@TupeloSchools)**

**Contact: Gregg Ellis (662.620.6195)**

**Milev Win TPSD Spelling Bee**

**TUPELO, Miss. — P-E-G-A-S-I.**

And with the correct spelling of that word, Simona Milev became the 2019 Tupelo Public School District Spelling Bee winner at the Hancock Learning Center on Thursday night.

“I was so nervous,” the Tupelo Middle School 7<sup>th</sup>-grader said moments after winning. “I’m just so excited.”

The winning word came in the fourth round. She also had to spell “corrugated” to advance to the winning round.

Finishing second was Lawndale 2<sup>nd</sup>-grader, Malak Rayyan.

Both Milev and Rayyan advanced to the Lee County Championships, slated for Jan. 31 at the Hancock Learning Center.

**All Participants**

**Lawhon**

Anne Frances Atkinson

**Lawndale**

Malak Rayyan

Jaijit Gill

**Milam**

Rebecca Johnston

Jakiya Johnson

**Pierce Street**

Olivia White

Eli Johnson

**Rankin**

Caylee Naylor  
Connor Francis

**Tupelo Middle School**

Simona Milev  
Keller Roberson

**-[www.tupeloschools.com](http://www.tupeloschools.com)-**