

Woodward WordMasters Challenge

For Immediate Release

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A team representing Woodward School, consisting of 22 second and third graders, achieved Highest Honors in the recent **WordMasters Challenge™**—a national vocabulary competition involving nearly 150,000 students. The Woodward Team scored an impressive 187 points out of a possible 200 in the second of three meets this year, placing third in the nation.

Competing in the Blue Division of the **WordMasters Challenge™**, *Lena Pierson, Phoebe Smith and Therese Moore* each earned a perfect score of 20 on the challenge. Nationally, only 20 third graders achieved this result. Other students from Woodward School who achieved outstanding results in the meet include *Aaron Wu, Brandon Li and Jeffrey Sun*. The students were coached in preparation for the **WordMasters Challenge™** by *Lori Winer and Agnes Cammarata*.

The **WordMasters Challenge™** is an exercise in critical thinking that first encourages students to become familiar with a set of interesting new words (considerably harder than grade level), and then challenges them to use those words to complete analogies expressing various kinds of logical relationships. Working to solve the analogies helps students learn to think both analytically and metaphorically. Although most vocabulary enrichment and analogy-solving programs are designed for use by high school students, **WordMasters Challenge™** materials have been specifically created for younger students in grades three through eight. They are particularly well suited for children who are motivated by the challenge of learning new words and enjoy the logical puzzles posed by analogies.

The **WordMasters Challenge™** program is administered by a company based in Indianapolis, Indiana, which is dedicated to inspiring high achievement in American schools. Further information is available at the company's website: <http://www.wordmasterschallenge.com>.

Southborough Recreation is proud of all our WordMaster participants and instructors. We are extremely excited for those who have achieved Highest Honors. Although Blue Division is for third grade only we were happy to open it up to the second grade. We look forward to continuing to offer this program to our 2nd & 3rd graders in the future.