



# Sweet Home Independent School District

7508 FM 531, Sweet Home, Texas 77987

Ph: (361) 293-3221

Fax: (361) 741-2499

Dear Cougar Parents,

Sweet Home ISD and the SHISD Board of Trustees are dedicated to fostering high academic standards and equitable educational opportunities for all students. Administration and the School Board support and empower our teachers to provide a high-quality education for every student.

With that in mind, SHISD has adopted Amplify as its core literacy curriculum beginning in the 2024-2025 school year. Amplify has been vetted and approved by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) and offers Texas schools access to high-quality, TEKS-aligned K-8 language arts and reading curriculum.

While Amplify is a private company with several national products (including digital learning products), what Texas now owns is separate and distinct from the rest of Amplify's products. This product has been in a pilot phase since 2020, being updated regularly based on feedback, for now under the name *Amplify Texas Elementary Literacy Program* but will be in the future *Texas Bluebonnet Learning*.

Through feedback from stakeholders, including teachers and parents, new updates and modifications of the materials have resulted in multiple released versions since 2020, leading to our current product. Efforts have been made to ensure all content is age appropriate and reflective of Texas standards and that lesson design and pacing reflects feedback from teachers.

80% of school districts in Region 3 have adopted this curriculum with some districts in year 3 of adoption. Districts who have been using this curriculum report increases in student learning in literacy across all content areas as a result of the embedded writing components and rigorous reading passages.

During our parent-teacher conference day on Monday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, we will have laptops set up in the library if you are interested in reviewing the curriculum. I have also listed websites below where you are able to find more information about this curriculum as well.

The staff at Sweet Home encourage all of our parents to be involved in our various committees such as School Health Advisory Council (SHAC) and the District Educational Improvement Committee (DEIC). I know your time is valuable, but these options are available for you to be involved in our decision-making process and hear the conversations that lead to many of our instructional decisions.

You are also welcome to speak with any of the following people to help you find accurate and up-to-date information:

*“Rural Roots. Empowered Minds.”*



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- Your child’s teacher;
- Varonica Sluka, Reading Department Chair;
- Bethany Page, Assistant Principal;
- or myself.

## Texas Education Agency (TEA) K-5 RLA Literacy Program Full-Subject Materials

<https://tea.texas.gov/academics/instructional-materials/tea-available-materials/tea-available-instructional-materials/rlak-5>

## Emergency Release V4 2023-2024 English Reading Language Arts (RLA) Materials

<https://tea.texas.gov/academics/instructional-materials/tea-available-materials/tea-available-instructional-materials/rlak-5>

## State Board of Education – Instructional Materials Review and Approval (IMRA) Cycle 2024 Reports

<https://sboe.texas.gov/state-board-of-education/imra/k-5-english-language-arts-and-reading-clar-materials-and-reports>

As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me. Thank you for your continued support!

*Dr. Candace Pohl*

Dr. Candace Pohl  
Superintendent

School Health Advisory Committee Upcoming Dates	District Educational Improvement Committee Upcoming Dates
Tuesday, November 12 <sup>th</sup> @ 5:30 p.m.	Thursday, October 24 <sup>th</sup> @ 4:30 p.m.
	Thursday, January 16 <sup>th</sup> @ 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday, February 11 <sup>th</sup> @ 5:30 p.m.	Tuesday, February 4 <sup>th</sup> @ 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday, April 8 <sup>th</sup> @ 5:30 p.m.	Tuesday, April 8 <sup>th</sup> @ 4:30 p.m.