



CURRICULUM UPDATE

September 5, 2025

AMPLIFY ELA 6-8

Dear Parents and Guardians,

You are receiving this newsletter because the Middle School is piloting Amplify ELA this year. Amplify ELA is for grades 6–8. At the core of every lesson is a high-quality text that drives learning. Students build their reading, writing, and thinking skills by exploring complex texts, making observations, discussing big ideas, and finding personal connections to what they read. If you have any questions about the pilot, please don't hesitate to reach out—we welcome your partnership and feedback.

Dr. Perry, Assistant Superintendent



HIGHLIGHTS

- The Amplify ELA pilot will replace Journeys, the reading program our district has used for the past six years. Our goal is to streamline curriculum resources so there is consistency across classrooms and equitable access for all students.
- Every lesson begins with a high-quality complex text, fiction, nonfiction, poetry, or multimedia that drives reading, writing, and discussion.
- Rich texts expand vocabulary and background knowledge across multiple content areas.
- Built-in scaffolds, supports, and extensions help meet the needs of struggling readers, English learners, and advanced students.

With the elementary schools piloting Amplify 3rd - Edition CKLA this year, we are excited to extend this work into the Middle School by piloting a new English Language Arts resource. Together, these programs help us build a fully aligned K–8 ELA curriculum, giving students a consistent and supportive path as they grow as readers and writers.

Amplify ELA, places engaging, high-quality texts at the center of instruction, helping students strengthen their reading, writing, and critical thinking skills. We look forward to seeing how this program supports our students' growth, and we will keep you updated throughout the year.

The Simple View of Reading says that reading comprehension = word recognition × language comprehension. In other words, students must be able to decode words accurately and fluently and understand language and vocabulary in order to become skilled readers.

If either skill is weak, overall comprehension suffers. **AMPLIFY is built on the same foundation as the Simple View of Reading**—teaching students both how to read words and how to understand language so they can become skilled readers for life.

