

## NOVEMBER 2026

### Language & Accountable Talk: Building Vocabulary Together

**This Month's Focus:** The district's Language priority emphasizes accountable talk, academic discussion, and intentional vocabulary building — skills that grow naturally through everyday conversation at home.

#### Tips for Parents & Families

- Have real conversations at mealtimes about the day's events, using full sentences and new vocabulary.
- Introduce one new "grown-up" word each week and use it naturally in conversation.
- Ask follow-up questions that require more than a yes/no answer.
- Encourage your child to explain their thinking out loud, even when they're not totally sure.

#### Tips for School Volunteers & Tutors

| Grade Band | Volunteer & Tutor Tip                                                                              |
|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| K-3        | Play oral language games — rhyming, "I Spy" with descriptive clues, or retelling a story in order. |
| 4-6        | Introduce and discuss new vocabulary words before reading, then look for them again in the text.   |
| 7-8        | Ask questions that require students to explain, compare, or defend an opinion using evidence.      |
| 9-12       | Practice academic discussion and gentle debate — ask students to argue a position and support it.  |

#### Try This at Home: Vocabulary Snack

Post a "Word of the Week" on the fridge. Everyone in the family tries to use it at least once a day — and points for creative use are always welcome.

*"Students will regularly participate in accountable talk, academic discussion, oral language development, and vocabulary instruction."*