



SHELTON BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Superintendent of Schools

Vocabulary Project 2016-17

“Word of the Week” for the whole community

“...there’s a positive correlation between a student’s vocabulary size in grade 12, the likelihood that she will graduate from college, and her future level of income. The reason is clear: vocabulary size is a convenient proxy for a whole range of educational attainments and abilities—not just skill in reading, writing, listening, and speaking but also general knowledge of science, history, and the arts. If we want to reduce economic inequality in America, a good place to start is the language-arts classroom.”

-E.D. Hirsh, Jr.

Dear Community Partner,

We in Shelton schools have always taught our students to build their vocabulary. It’s fundamental to what we do! You could say we are in the “vocabulary business.”

Now, with the mandate that all of Connecticut public school students take the SATs, and the resulting scores used to measure the quality of local schools, we feel this is an appropriate time to reinvigorate our efforts on behalf of our students in the area of vocabulary. We know it is good for all of our students! We are committed to building deeper thinkers – word by word.

We are reaching out to our community partners for help. We are asking you to post our word of the week in a visible spot in your business, organization or institution.

How does this work?

If you sign up to participate, we will send you an 8.5 by 11 poster (a single standard sheet) to your preferred email each week with the word and a definition. We can provide you with a transparent page protector to insert the word of the week. You can display the word in a window, in a lobby, on the wall of a waiting area ... anywhere you like!

That’s it!

It will serve as a point of reference for our students and their families and connect our work in the schools with the wider community. We believe this simple gesture of partnership will be useful to everyone involved.

Get involved! Help us to build deeper thinkers – word by word.

Join the **Shelton Vocabulary Project**.

If interested, send an email to me, cclouet@sheltonpublicschools.org

Put **Vocabulary Project** in the subject, and we will send you a weekly email message with the word of the week for you to display.

If you would like us to send a ‘page protector’, please include your mailing/contact information in the message.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Chris Clouet