

# IMPACT STORY

## Southwest Plains Consortium

Ulysses Middle  
School/Ulysses High  
School USD 214



### TIMELINE OF ACTIVITIES

#### Fall 2019

Review data to determine needs among student populations.

#### 2020-2021

Improved vocabulary results in high-level student learning environments.

#### 2019-2020

Teachers receive professional development and literacy resources.

### CURRENT LiNK IMPACT

With LiNK, administrators and teachers were able to have realistic and authentic conversations about literacy. They were able to analyze the work of students to see how foundational skills and background knowledge could be enhanced to help create better student writers.

ELA and other content teachers participated in a book study to learn more about strategies to improve student reading comprehension. With these evidence-based strategies, students improved comprehension, and in turn produce higher-level writing.

Teachers say the professional development and new resources will create better student readers and writers into the future.

*"Resources provided by the LiNK grant provided an additional opportunity for us to determine why our students were struggling with standardized testing. Vocabulary holds the key to success."*

- Jennifer Moyer, science teacher, Ulysses High School

### FUTURE LITERACY IMPACT

Amid a worldwide pandemic, Ulysses made significant progress toward addressing the goal of deficient vocabulary among its students. Data and decades of experience among teachers showed that students lacked vocabulary and background knowledge, hampering students' ability to succeed in the educational system.

With new educational resources and collaboration between English, math, science and social science teachers, "The Critical Vocabulary" book was created to guide teachers and help students understand words that are critical in the comprehension of all content areas.

Understanding vocabulary in all disciplines creates a cross-curricular environment among teachers in order to enhance the learning environment for students.