LINCOLN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

English Language Arts Learning Expectations: Grade 7

Massachusetts Standards

Strand: Speaking and Listening

Students will be able to:

Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 7 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own ideas clearly. (Standard 1)

Big Ideas

- Discussions are an essential context for learning new concepts and ideas.
- Discussions make thinking public, allowing listeners to reflect on the thinking and problem solving process of others.
- Participants in discussions refine their thinking by expanding on the ideas of others, posing hypotheses, and working toward solutions to problems.
- Skilled presenters plan and deliver oral presentations by considering how to most effectively convey information to others in order to maintain an audience's interest, attention and respect.
- Through the study of English grammar and word usage, students gain more control over their speaking allowing them to deliver more precise messages.

Key Outcomes

Students will demonstrate an understanding of **speaking and listening**:

- Analyze the main ideas and supporting details presented in diverse media and formats (*e.g.*, *visually*, *quantitatively*, *orally*) and explain how the ideas clarify a topic, text, or issue under study. (*Standard 2*)
- Present claims and findings, emphasizing salient points in a focused, coherent manner with pertinent descriptions, facts, details, and examples; use appropriate eye contact, adequate volume, and clear pronunciation. (Standard 4)
- Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate. (See grade 7 Language Standards 1 and 3 for specific expectations.) (Standard 6)

Essential Knowledge and Skills

Students will:

• Come to discussions prepared having read or researched material under study; explicitly draw on that preparation by referring to evidence on the topic, text, or issue to probe and reflect on ideas under discussion. (Standard 1a)

- Follow rules for collegial discussions, track progress toward specific goals and deadlines, and define individual roles as needed. (Standard 1b)
- Pose questions that elicit elaboration and respond to others' questions and comments with relevant observations and ideas that bring the discussion back on topic as needed. (Standard 1c)
- Acknowledge new information expressed by others and, when warranted, modify their own views. (Standard 1d)
- Delineate a speaker's argument and specific claims, evaluating the soundness of the reasoning and the relevance and sufficiency of the evidence. (Standard 3)
- Include multimedia components and visual displays in presentations to clarify claims and findings and emphasize salient points. (Standard 5)