

## Spelling

Essential spelling strategies are embedded in word study, reading, and writing instruction for students in grades K-12. Highland Park ISD students need to develop strategies for writing words fluently and accurately so that they are able to transfer their knowledge to authentic writing situations. A focused, explicit approach is required for students to develop sound spelling skills.

### **HPISD identifies five general guidelines for teaching word-specific knowledge:**

- Follow a curriculum
- Use research-based techniques
- Focus on the right words and patterns at the right time
- Differentiate instruction
- Connect spelling and word study to reading and writing

### **Goals for HPISD students**

- Understand that the primary purpose for learning about spelling is so that others can read their writing
- Know that their writing is valued, regardless of the stage of development of their spelling
- Develop an interest in words and spelling and want to do their best;
- Learn how to apply spelling strategies (including analogies) that will help them to write or learn any word
- Learn specific words that they use frequently and master the spelling of those words Use a variety of resources to help their spelling

An example of the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) for spelling:

- 18(A) Kindergarten: use phonological knowledge to match sounds to letters
- 22 (C) First: spell high-frequency words from a commonly used list
- 23(C) Second: spell high-frequency words from a commonly used list
- 24 (C) Third: spell high-frequency and compound words from a commonly used list
- 22(C) Fourth: spell commonly used homophones (e.g., their/there/they're, two/too/to)
- 22 (C) Fifth/Sixth: differentiate between commonly confused terms (e.g., its/it's, affect/effect)
- Seventh-English IV: spell correctly, including using various resources to determine and check correct spellings

*For a complete listing of TEKS that cover all orthographic spelling patterns, please see the Highland Park ISD website.*

*For a complete listing of all high-frequency words for grades K-6, please see the HPISD Spelling Document on the Highland Park ISD website.*