WHAT’S THE STORY?

As the Depression settled in economically around the United States, the Dust Bowl affected the farmers in the Midwest. The Grapes of Wrath is the story of one family whose farm is lost. They hear wonderful things about the opportunities in California and decide to travel west to begin a new life. After their long journey, they arrive to find that life is not much better in California. They refuse to give up and stay together as a family as they fight to survive against all odds.

CONNECTIONS TO CURRICULUM*

The following are some, but not all, of the connections to curriculum for this novel.

- **Unit 1: Language and Perspective**
  - Essential Questions: “How do texts reflect society both historically and linguistically?” and “How can crafting your story reflect personal identity?”

- **Unit 3: Universal Human Experience**
  - Essential Questions: “How does sustained inquiry of the past inform and motivate change?” and “How do we prepare for an uncertain future?”

KEY STANDARDS ADDRESSED

- Analyze the impact of the author’s choices regarding how to develop and relate elements of a story or drama. RL.11.3
- Analyze multiple interpretations of a story, drama, or poem, evaluating how each version interprets the source text. RL.11.7
- Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grades 11–12 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies. RL.11.11
- Determine two or more themes or central ideas of a text and analyze their development, including how they interact and build on one another to produce a complex account; provide an objective summary of the text. RL.11.2
- Analyze a case in which grasping a point of view requires distinguishing what is directly stated in a text from what is really meant. RL.11.6
- Demonstrate knowledge of foundational works of American and world literature, including how two or more texts from the same period treat similar themes or topics. RL.11.9
- Apply knowledge of language to understand how language functions in different contexts, to make effective choices for meaning or style, and to

*based on BV School District Curriculum adopted Fall 2020*
comprehend more fully when reading.**RL.11.10**