

Terminology	Definition
504	Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Federal civil rights law requiring school programs and buildings to be accessible to children with disabilities; protects from discrimination
Accreditation	a process used to evaluate the educational performance of public schools in accordance regulations
Achievement gap	the difference between the performance of subgroups of students, especially those defined by gender, race/ethnicity, disability and socioeconomic status
ACT/SAT	American College Test (ACT). Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT). Two commonly used tests designed to assess high school students' general educational development and their ability to complete college-level work in four skill areas: English, mathematics, reading, and science reasoning probability for success in the freshman year of college.
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act (protects rights and requires accommodations for disabled persons.) Is the "sister law" to 504
AEA	Area Education Agency. Iowa has nine area education agencies or AEAs. AEAs are regional service agencies that provide school improvement services for students, families, teachers, administrators and their communities. Our region is supported by the Central Rivers AEA.
AIM / NIMAS	Accessible Instructional Materials (AIM). National Instructional Materials Accessibility System (NIMAS). For students who struggle to read because of physical, sensory, cognitive, or learning differences AIM/NIMAS provides an alternative to print based materials.
AIW	Authentic Intellectual Work
ALICE	Alert. Lockdown. Inform. Counter. Evacuate. Techniques for safer and more strategic evacuations during school or building invasions.
Alignment	effort to ensure that what teachers teach is in accord with what the curriculum says will be taught and what is assessed on official tests
Alternative Assessment	a method to measure student educational attainment other than the typical multiple-choice, state required test (i.e., Iowa Assessments). Assessments may include portfolios, constructed response items and other performance measurement tools, as defined by the Dept. of Ed's working program definitions. Is for kids with IEPs. Only 1% of total student population can participate this way.
Alternative education	a school or center organized for alternative programs of instruction. MLA and Pier and 8th Hour are considered alternative education in MCSD.
AP	Advanced Placement. college-level courses available to high school students which may allow a student to earn college credit provided through the College Board
APR	Annual Progress Report. Each district supplies this report to the Iowa Department of Education. It contains assessment data, goals, attendance & graduation data, and other district information.
Articulation	the interrelationship and continuity of contents, curriculum, instruction, and evaluation within programs
Articulation - Horizontal	the coordination of the program of all teachers at a certain grade level or curriculum area; involves the arrangement of content across the curriculum.
Articulation - Vertical	involves the planning of curriculum across grade levels; addresses the placement of curriculum elements from one grade to the next, or from the beginning of one grade level to the end of that grade level.
ASCD	Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development
Assessment	method of measuring the learning and performance of students; examples include achievement tests, minimum competency tests, developmental screening tests, aptitude tests, observation instruments, performance tasks, etc.
At-Risk students	students who have a higher than average probability of dropping out or failing school.
AYP	Adequate Yearly Progress. A measurement indicating whether a school, division or the state met federally approved academic goals required by the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act/No Child Left Behind Act (ESEA/NCLB) Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) has replaced NCLB.

Benchmark	a standard for judging performance
BOEE	Board of Educational Examiners
CASA	
Central Rivers AEA	Area Education Agency that serves Marshalltown Community School District
CIA	Curriculum. Instruction. Assessment
Cohort	a particular group of people with something in common
Core Curriculum	the body of knowledge that all students are expected to learn in the subjects of English, mathematics, history/social science and science
CPDL	Curriculum Professional Development Leader
CPI	Crisis Prevention Institute
CPI	Competent Private Instruction (a.k.a., Homeschooling). Now referred to as Private Instruction. Instruction of a student or students by a parent or parents, guardian or other person having control or charge of such student or students as an alternative to attendance in a public or private school. Families can receive access to public services, extracurriculars through dual-enrollment in both public and private education
CUD	
Curriculum	a plan or document that a school or school division uses to define what will be taught and the methods that will be used to educate and assess students
Curriculum alignment	occurs when what is taught includes or exceeds the content defined by the Iowa Core
DDSDP	District Developed Service Delivery Plan
DE	Department of Education
Disaggregated Data	presentation of data broken into subgroups of students instead of the entire student body which allows parents and teachers to measure how each student group is performing; typical subgroups include students who are economically disadvantaged, from different racial or ethnic groups, those who have disabilities or have limited English fluency
DoK	Depth of Knowledge
DL	Dual Language
EEE	Block of time/class period at Miller for enrichment, extensions
ECE	Early Childhood Education
ECSE	Early Childhood Special Education
EEO	Equal Employment Opportunity
ELL	English Language Learners. (also English as a Second Language ESL) A Student's language background is in a language other than English, and the student's proficiency in English is such that the probability of the student's academic success in an English-only classroom is below that of an academically successful peer with an English language background
ELP	English Language Proficiency. Refers to a set of standards English Language Learners work toward attaining
ESSA	Every Student Succeeds Act
XLP	Extended Learning Program. Once called TAG or gifted program. It includes students identified as possessing outstanding abilities and who are capable of high performance in any of the following areas or in combination: General intellectual ability, Creative thinking, Leadership ability, Visual and performing arts ability, Specific ability aptitude.
ESYS	Extended School Year Services - there are specific rules that define which students with IEPs get summer special education services to reduce the amount of summer learning loss they experience
FAPE	Free and Appropriate Public Education. requirement through the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) that education of students with disabilities (between the ages of 3 and 21) must be provided at public expense, under public supervision, at no charge to the parents and based on the child's unique needs and not on the child's disability
FAST	Formative Assessment System for Teachers designed for screening, progress monitoring, and program evaluation
FAY	Full Academic Year
FERPA	Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (confidentiality of student records)
FINE	First in the Nation in Education

FRL	Free and Reduced Lunch
GED	General Equivalency Diploma (Iowa no longer supports this assessment)
GenEd	General Education
GOLD	early childhood/preschool assessment
HAWK-I	Healthy and Well Kids in Iowa (Federal health insurance program for uninsured children)
HiSET	Current High School equivalency testing system
Head Start	a federally funded child-development program that provides health, educational, nutritional, social and other services to preschool children from economically disadvantaged families
Home based instruction	non-reimbursable educational services provided in the home setting (or other agreed upon setting) in accordance with the student's individual education program who were removed from school for disciplinary or other reasons, but not the result of a medical referral
Homebound instruction	academic instruction provided to students who are confined at home or in a health-care facility for periods that would prevent normal school attendance
HR	Human Resources
HSAP	Home School Assistance Program
IASB	Iowa Association of School Boards
IASBO	Iowa Association of School Business Officials
IC	Infinite Campus
IC	Instructional Coach
IC	Iowa Core
ICC	Iowa Core Curriculum
ICN	Iowa Communications Network
IDEA	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. federal law guiding the delivery of special education services for students with disabilities which includes the guarantee of "free and appropriate public education" for every school-age child with a disability and allows parental involvement in the educational planning process, requires equitable access to the general curriculum and delineates how school disciplinary rules and the obligation to provide a free appropriate public education for disabled children mesh. Our obligations are to provide the educational needs defined by IDEA at no cost to the families. It is partnered with ADA and 504. Students with IEPs are a protected class.
IEP	Individualized Education Program. It is a written plan created for a student who meets the State / Federal eligibility requirements of having an educational disability. Evaluation is done by the AEA, but the IEP is a legally binding document that outlines how all parties (AEA, school, and sometimes parent) are going to give students w/ disabilities equitable access to the general education while teaching them in a way they develop the skills they are behind in. IEPs are good for 1 year and every 3 years a child has to be re-evaluated to determine if they continue to be eligible for special education services. IEPs include education, transportation, summer services (ESYS), access to extracurriculars, and a focus on transition to working / learning / living beyond high school.
IFSP	Individual Family Service Plan (for children 0-3 years) a written plan outlining the procedure necessary to transition a child with disabilities to preschool or other appropriate services. Similar to IEP, but the focus is on helping parents learn the skills to support their children in the home.
IGDI	Individual Growth and Development Indicators assessment measures of early language & literacy development
IPI	Instructional Practices Inventory
IPDP	Iowa Professional Development Plan
ISEA	Iowa State Education Association
ITBS	Iowa Tests of Basic Skills (given 3-8), now referred to as Iowa Assessments
ITED	Iowa Tests of Educational Development (given to 9-11), now referred to as Iowa Assessments
IYS	Iowa Youth Survey a "census" survey that reflects the perceptions, attitudes, and behaviors of Iowa youth Grade 6,8 and 11

Lau Plan	This is the district plan for serving English Lanuagae Learners; derived from a supreme course ruling determining the lack of supplemental language instruction in public school for students with limited English proficiency violated the Civil Rights Act of 1964.
LEA	Local Education Agency (school district)
LOA	Letter of Assignment
Longitudinal Data	How one class or subgroup grows from one year to the next.
MCT Observation	Model Classroom Teacher Observation Classroom
MCT PLC Lead	Full time contract teachers who also serve in TLC system as observation classrooms
MCGF	Multi-cultural, Gender-fair
MTSS	Multi Tiered System of Support. Practice to help schools identify, and intervene with, struggling students as well as students who are on track to be proficient early on. focuses on three tiers of intervention: Universal: For every student, Targeted: For students who are either struggling or need to be accelerated and Intensive: For students who are significantly behind and where targeted intervention did not help
NAEP	National Assessment of Educational Progress. the only nationally representative and continuing assessment of what America's students know and can do in various subject areas including mathematics, reading, science, writing, U.S. history, geography, civics and the arts; the federally funded program tests a representative sample of students in grades 4, 8 and 12 and provides information about the achievement of students nationally and state-by-state
National Blue Ribbon Award	honors public and private K-12 schools that are either academically superior in their states or that demonstrate dramatic gains in student achievement
NCSS	National Council for Social Studies
NCTM	National Council of Teachers of Mathematics
NEA	National Education Association
NGSS	Next Generation Science Standards
NSBA	National School Board Association
NSTA	National Science Teachers' Association
NWEA	Northwest Evaluation Association
LIEP	Language Instruction Educational Program - the district arranges this program for all limited English proficient English Language Learners. The program is defined within the district's Lau Plan.
OCR	Office of Civil Rights
Para	Paraeducator – also known as aide or associate
PBIS	Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports. multi-tiered continuum of supports for all students in the school environment to promote and maximize academic achievement and behavioral competence for all students.
PBL	Project Based Learning a teaching method in which students gain knowledge and skills by working for an extended period of time to investigate and respond to an engaging and complex question, problem, or challenge
PD	Professional development . training for teachers, principals, superintendents, administrative staff, local school board members and Board of Education members designed to enhance student achievement
PL	Personalized Learning
PLTW	Project Lead the Way - STEM curriculum
PLC	Professional Learning Communities
PLP	Personal Learning Plan developed by students in collaboration with teachers, counselors, and parents—as a way to help them achieve short- and long-term learning goals, most commonly at the middle school and high school levels.
PO	Purchase Order
PPEL	Physical Plant and Equipment Levy
Proficient	test results indicating that the student demonstrated the skills and knowledge outlined in the Standards of Learning

RTI	Response to Intervention. a method designed to identify and provide early, effective assistance to children who are having difficulty learning: Tier 1 students need extra help understanding the core curriculum, Tier 2 students consistently showing a discrepancy between their current level of performance and the expected level of performance, and Tier 3 students need even more support
SAI	School Administrators of Iowa
SAT	Student Assistance Team. Used at each building to help students who aren't in Special Education but who made need some assistance
Scores: GE	Grade Equivalent score given on norm-referenced tests that indicates where a student's test performance falls along an achievement continuum.
Scores: PR	Percentile Rank is a score that indicates the percent of students in a particular group who earned lower raw scores on a test than the student in question. Example, John scored a NPR of 57%. This means that nationally, John scored better than 57% of the students in his group. If he had a IPR of 50% this means he scored better than 50% of Iowa students in his group.
Scores: SS	Standard Score shows growth or lack of growth from year to year. There are tables that show typical scores of grade groups.
SES	Socio-economic Status
SIAC	School Improvement Advisory Council
SIOP	Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol: Instructional framework that promotes language development of all students.
SPED	Special Education. An educational disability service especially designed and at no cost to the parent/guardian that adapts the curriculum, materials or instructional delivery for students identified as having educational or physical disabilities. Tailored to each student's unique needs and learning styles, and provided in a general education or special education classroom, home, hospital, separate school or other setting. See "IEP", "IDEA" for more details.
Standard school day	a calendar day that averages at least six instructional hours for students in grades 1-12, excluding breaks for meals and recess, and a minimum of three instructional hours for students in kindergarten
Standard school year	a school year of at least 180 teaching days or a total of at least 1080 teaching hours per year.
Standard unit of credit	earned credit based on a minimum of 140-clock hours of instruction and successful completion of the requirements of the course
Standardized testing	tests administered and scored under uniform (standardized) conditions.
STEAM / STEM	Science Technology Engineering Arts Math
STW	School-to-Work
Subgroup	A smaller group of the total student group. Examples: IEP, Low SES, FRL and ethnicity groups
TAT	Teacher Assistance Team
ELPA21	English Language Proficiency Assessment for the 21st Century - this is state assessment used to measure English language proficiency status of English Language Learners. Administered each Spring, tied to Common Core and English Language Proficiency standards.
TIC	Trauma Informed Care - a systematic approach to managing students and learning environments. It's based in mental health approaches to working with individuals who have experienced trauma in their lives
Title I	federal funding program authorized by Title I of ESEA/NCLB to support instructional needs of students from low-income families to ensure that all children have a fair and equal opportunity to obtain a high-quality education and reach (at a minimum) proficiency on state academic achievement standards and assessments
Title I School	a school with a high rate of disadvantaged students making it eligible for participation in federal Title I programs
Title I school-wide assistance	Title 1 schools with 40 percent or greater high-poverty, student population may use federal funding to meet the needs of all students at the school
TELPA	Tennessee English Language Proficiency Assessment. Program screening tool used to determine potential program eligibility for English Language Learners
Title II	Federal funding source related to teacher professional development

Title III	Federal funding source related to English Language Learners
TLC	Teacher Leadership and Compensation System
TQ	Teacher Quality
WE/VEC	Work Experience Coordinator
YSS	Youth and Shelter Services, also known as Youth Standing Strong